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Managing Director of British crime

G2 with European weather

Monday October 7 1996



Media

Pulp publisher John Blake

G2 pages 8/9

Favourite storms home in the storms Frankfurt Arc de Triomphe

This Section, page 16



The poisoning of politics

Doubts over effectiveness of Downey's investigation

Ewen MacAskill, Chief

ONCERN was mounting last Parliamentary ombudsman, Sir Gordon Downey, will not have the resources to carry out a thorough and effective investigation into the Neil Hamilton-Ian Greer cash for questions affair.

John Major attempted to defuse the issue yesterday by promising a speedy inquiry, saying it could be completed within weeks. He also promised it would be made public. But Sir Gordon, worried about the amount of paper-work, the number of witnesses to be called and his lack of staff, dismissed the Prime Minister's timescale as

The row threatens to over-shadow this week's Conservashadow this week's Conserva-tive conference in Bourne-mouth, which opens tomorrow. Mr Major, who also had to contend with opin-ion polls yesterday showing Labour's lead widening, had heen hoping to use the confer-ence as a launchpad for the long months of electionseering. long months of electioneering

that lie ahead. Mr. Major, interviewed on the BBC's Frost programme, banged a table in exaspera-tion, and rejected the idea of a tribunal of inquiry, saying it would take years rather than weeks. "I have said to Gordon Downey, this matter is poisoning British politics be-cause of the way it is being

But, unlike the Conserva tive chairman, Brian Mawhinney, who last week reluctantly endorsed Neil Hamilton, the Tory MP at the centre of the affair, Mr Major distanced himself.

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In addition to concern over whether Sir Gordon has adequate resources. Labour and the Liberal Democrats also expressed worry over his report having to be submitted to the Commons committee on standards and privileges, which has an in-built Conser-



ney if the committee to which he has to answer is open to pressure. It may undermine his effectiveness

Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown said: "I have absolute trust and confidence in Sir Gordon as a person. But it doesn't matter how good the person is if the procedures have in the past been tainted and we are to use the same procedures again, the House of Commons would be right to be suspicious first the outcome may be tainted again." The scale of the task was ad-

mitted yesterday by Sir Gor-dou: "I am as anxious to get on with this as anyone, but it is impossible to indicate a likely conclusion date until I have a chance to look at the scale of the evidence. I have not received any of it yet.
"If it is being suggested that

of in two or three weeks, I think that is likely to prove unrealistic." Vernon Bogdanor, professor of government at Oxford

University, urged the issue be investigated by a judicial tri-bunal rather than referred back to the committee of standards and privileges. Sir Gordon Downey, who reports to the committee, has

too few powers, Professor are in a case. But a whip is Bogdanor warned. "Initially I not entitled to say: This is thought he had the authority what we advise'." thought he had the authority to call for any papers he wants, but all he can do is vative majority.

Labour's chief whip, Donald Dewar, said: "It is no Tory majority. In the current

not command confidence. yesterday with publication of a memo written by David Willetts, then a government whip, suggesting connivance with the Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, then Tory chairman of the members' interests com-mittee, to limit the damage

surfaced two years ago. According to the Sunday Times, Mr Willetts held a discussion with Sir Geoffrey and recorded it in a memo: "Said No 10 had got in a muddle. They claimed they had cleared Neil Hamilton but actually this was only on a com plaint about remarks of his is now expecting to receive a formal complaint about Hamilton receiving money etc. He could A, argue now sub judice, and get committee to set aside or B, investigate it as quickly as possible, exploiting good Tory majority. We are inclined to go for A, but

he wants our advice. The inquiry that followed was so limited that Labour nembers walked out.

Speaking at his London home David Willetts implicitly conceded the authenticity of the memo. "All I would say is simply that the right way forward is for Sir Gordon Downey to look at all the papers. I am sure that is the that and really do not wish to add anything more.

ing colleagues that a proper understanding of what hapexamination of all the docu-ments in the case and not simhas been taken out of context. Sir Geoffrey admitted be had spoken to Mr Willetts about the options for the in-quiry, but denied being influenced by him or seeking his advice. 'Mr Willetts did not try to influence me. A whip is entitled to ask me where we

Tories' tangled web, pages 2-2; Leader comment and Letters, page 8; Down and



John Major tried to defuse sleaze scandal in David Frost interview Photograph Garry Weass

matter could be disposed of in two or three weeks, I think that is likely to prove unrealistic. **Sir Gordon Downey**

'If it is being

suggested that the

'It doesn't matter how good the person is if the procedures have in the past been tainted and we are to use the same procedures again.'

Paddy Ashdown

'This matter is poisoning British politics, because of the way it is being slanted by people. I want it settled, I want it settled quickly.'

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Chronometer, Watch and Nautical

Instrument maker to.

The Right Honourable the Lords

Commissioners of the Admiralty. Furnous even before the Battle of Trabalgar, Joseph Sewill was crafting precision timepieces and weather autruments for Their

John Major

Two killed by missile as Nordic biker feud grows

Jon Henley in Helsinki

WO people were killed and 17 injured when a shoulder-fired antitank missile was launched into an all-night party at the Copenhagen headquar-ters of the Hell's Angels early yesterday. It was the bloodiest inci-dent in an increasingly vi-

cious feud between rival motorbike gangs across Scapdinavia, and police in Denmark were preparing for reprisals. Police named the victims

at the Hell's Angels annual Viking Party as Louis Melsen, aged 38, a candidate for Hell's Angels membership and Janne Krohn, aged 29 a woman guest aged 29, a woman guest.

The assault, which came
days after the Danish par-

liament promised to rush through legislation against the warring gangs, brought the death toll from more than two years of car bomb-

attacks across the normally | pound, where some 300 placid Nordic region to nine, with at least 45 people

Police, who were patrol-ling outside the walled and fortified base shortly be-fore the attack, admitted they were fighting a losing battle against the Hell's Angels and Bandidos gangs, whom they suspect are vying for control of drug and prostitution rackets in Norway, Denmark, Sweden

and Finland.

"We've been on a very high level of security for nearly a year," said a Copenhagen police superintendent, Fleming Munch.

"We then're determined to "If they're determined to massacre each other, there's not much anyone can do to stop them."

The missile

The missile was apparently one of a batch of 12 stolen from an army depot in Sweden two years ago. It was fired into the back of the clubhouse from

people — including foreign members and local resi-

dents — were partying. Mr Munch refused to confirm reports that one of the dead was the Danish Hell's Angels president, Christian Middelboe, but Mr Middelboe was injured, police said. Three people were seriously hurt by shrapnel, and others were badly burned.

Three similar attacks have been launched on Hell's Angels clubhouses in Hell's Angels clubnouses in Sweden in the past two weeks, including one in Malmo last Thursday which injured four people.

Danish police yesterday raided several Bandido properties, but made only two arrests, neither connected with the missile nected with the missile blast. Police were also checking passengers leav-

ing by ferry and air. But Mr Munch said rapid progress was unlikely. "These gangs want to settle things their own way. They refuse to talk," he said.

Thousands face Gulf war pesticide tests

David Fairhall Defence Corres

HOUSANDS of servicemen and women may face medical checks as the Ministry of Defence launches an inquiry into reports that British troops were exposed to pesticides during the Gulf war because they were not given protec-

tive clothing. One senior officer admitted yesterday that the army's "can do" philosophy may have got out of hand, with junior ranks simply being told to "get on with it". The MoD admitted last week that far more potentially dangerous organophos-phate insecticides (OPs) were used in the desert than had

been realised, and that this was almost certainly one cause of the mysterious "Gulf war syndrome" for which veterans are demanding treatment and compensation. Michael Portillo, still refuses such a syndrome. "We have set up the most comprehensive medical investigation, firstly to see whether Gulf in greater numbers, greater proportions — than the population as a whole, and, if they are, if there is one linking theme," he said yesterday.

Mr Portillo admitted that

"certain pesticides" were used, adding: "I would hope that whatever precautions were appropriate were taken."

Documents disclosed at the weekend by Labour's defence spokesman, Dr David Clark,

creased by lack of equipment.
In one report, Sergeant
Anthony Worthington of the
4th Armoured Brigade, says he repeatedly raised the matter with senior officers, but to no effect. "At no time was per-sonal protective equipment issued to personnel applying insecticide," he wrote. Other veterans told Richard Barr, a solicitor who is representing several hundred of them in

liquid insecticide was sprayed on tents while men were eating meals inside. Hilary Meredith, another so-

licitor representing III veter-ans, said: "Many could not read the instructions on the pesticides purchased from the Saudis. They were mixed in-correctly and they were very

Organophosphate pesticides were developed in Germany during the 1930s and were the precursors of military perve gases. Some OPs are still com-monly used as insecticides, but the dangers of using them in concentrated form, especially when inhaled, are now widely recognised.

Last week's revelations by the MoD were prompted partly by the realisation by the Armed Forces Minister, Nicholas Soames, that his depart-ment had misled the Commons defence committee in Decem-ber 1994 by stating that only one OP (malathion) had been used — to delouse Iraqi prisoners.

Comment and Letters 8;

Crossword 15; Weather 16;

Oblituaries 10



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a rooftop about 70 yards ings, shootings and grenade | from the Hell's Angels com-

World News Dick Spring, Irish foreign minister, flew to Israel as the European Union took on a

Finance It is ironic that the Conservatives. the party of decentralisation. has done so much to centralise functions and finance.

Helfssio, the favourite, led from the front, winning the

Prix de l'Arc Triomphe with an awesome performance.

bigger role in crisis negotiations.



TORIES' **TANGLED** WEB

Daunting task sifting a mountain of papers

Tory-dominated committee will have absolute power after commissioner has reported on evidence









"In a memo to fellow whips, Willetts records the conversation [with Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith].

The memo says: 'Said No 10' had got in a muddle. They claimed they had cleared Neil Hamilton but actually this was only on a complaint about remarks of his, not on the new allegations. He is now expecting to receive a formal complaint about Hamilton receiving money etc. He could: A, argue now sub judice and get committee to set it aside or B, investigate it as quickly as possible, exploiting good Tory majority. We are inclined to go for A, but he wants our advice.

The Sunday Times yesterday

The task facing Sir Gordon Downey

David Hencke on the limits parliamentary procedure can put on what is made public

the Parliamentary Commissioner for through the moun ain of evidence on the "cash for questions" scandal.

It was clear yesterday that John Major's suggested two-to three-week deadline for the apletion of Sir Gordon's inuiry is an impossible target. The Prime Minister de-

clared on Breakfast with 45 large binders full of evi-Frost on BBC TV: "I have said dence from the Guardian. He to Gordon Downey: get on will also get a mountain of you can. And I say now pub. Fayed; easily double the 150 licly to the committee: I want pages of evidence released you to publish that report

Sir Gordon, the 68-year-old former Comptroller and four-day week, for which he is paid £72,000 a year, with only dence or for other people to assist him. He has no powers to call for people or papers, and no right to cross-examine

He has to rely entirely on the Standards and Privileges Committee for any extra powers. It will be up to the com-mittee, chaired by a Cabinet minister and with a built-in Government majority, to compel witnesses to attend or hand over documents.

David Willetts, the former whip at the centre of yesterday's claims, said of the now defunct Members' Interest Select Committee that it had a

"good Tory majority" Publication of Sir Gordon's report will also be the committee's decision. Members can choose either to publish his report in full, bold a further inquiry in public or private, or refuse to take any action all. Sir Gordon said action all. Sir Gordon said ton's stay at the Ritz Hotel in yesterday that even John Paris.

Gordon Downey, | Major could not compel Par-e Parliamentary | liament to publish it, as MPs on the committee decided

Sir Gordon said yesterday he was able to start the in-

He admitted the large num-

with it. Settle it as quickly as papers from Mohamed Al pages of evidence released from the Government; and evidence from the former minister Neil Hamilton and the lobbyist Ian Greer.

"I may well need extra help to sift through all the evitake over the normal work I still have to do for Parliament, such as giving advice

'I am not expecting any difficulty getting witnesses to at-tend, as the Guardian has said it will send me all their papers, the Government has promised all the information; and Mr Al Fayed, Mr Hamil-ton and Mr Greer are eager to

give evidence."
"I intend to start my inquiry as soon as I have received all the evidence. I do not have to wait until the committee meets next Monday [October 16] before I

The evidence includes details of £28,000 of cash and vouchers handed over to during Mr Al Fayed's battle with Lonrho to retain Harrods, and details of Mr Hamil-

Committee members and the argument for a tribunal

☐ Tony Newton, chairman: Leader of the House of Commons. One of the longest serving members of Lady Thatcher's and John Major's governments. Chaired previous Privileges Committee

Ann Taylor: Shadow Leader of the Commons, Long-serving member of the shadow Cebinet. Previously held directorship with

rours: Labour MP for Workington. One of the longest serving MPs with an interest in parliamentary procedures Asked questions which led to lan Greer admitting he had paid Sir Michael Grylls, chairman of the Tory backbench Trade and Industry

with strong views on perflamentary ethics. Closely questioned Sir Robin Butler, Cabinet Secretary, as a member of the Treasury and Civil Service Committee, over his handling of "cash for questions." | Sain Duncan-Smittle: Conservative MP for Chingford. Up and coming rightwing Eurosceptic MP who has taken on Lord Tebbit's former seat. Known to be tough about declaring interests.
| John Evans: Labour MP for St. Helens. Stalwart old-style Labour

Doug Hoyle: Labour MP for Warrington North. Chairman of the

Partiamentary Labour Party. His agent accepted £500 towards his lection fund in 1987. Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith: MP for Wealden. Former chairman of the Members' Interests Select Committee

inquiry into Neil Hamilton in 1994.

[1] Wigel Jones: Liberal MP for Cheltenham. Active constituency MP who won his seat in 1992. Not high profile on parliamentary

Dame Jill Knight: Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston. Tory grandee. Takes strong view on sexual morality, but strongly pertisan in her views on other matters.

Sir David Mitchell: Conservative MP for Hampshire North

West, Tory grandes. Former transport minister, Neit Hamilton was his Parliamentary Private Secretary, in 1989 before he became a Whip. ☐ Four government legal officers: Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney General; Sir Derek Spencer, the Solicitor General; Lord Mackay, the Lord Advocate; and Paul Cullen QC, the Solicitor General for Scotland, may attend but not vote.

This inquiry is quite different from any of the other ones I have undertaken this year. It may well be that members on the committee could decide to have their own

He was already facing a challenge yesterday from one Labour MP on the committee, Dale Campbell-Savours, MP for Workington, on the status of documents in the inquiry. Mr Campbell-Savours exsed concern that John

Sir Gordon was reticent on | Major was offering two what could happen after he classes of documents — those had completed his inquiry, that would be released to Sir Gordon and those he could in-spect at the Cabinet Office. "I would expect the commit-

tee to be allowed to see all the evidence and publish all the accuments in the Government's possession on this not just the ones to the Guardian's

His query is likely to be resisted by Tory MPs on the committee, reopening party political rows which discred-ited the old procedures.

Tribunal

The Commissioner

Can refuse to talle any action on conclusion of busine

Committee

. A second dispute is likely | There seems to be no re over whether the committee should meet in public to take any evidence it may wish to hear. Mr Campbell-Savours said yesterday that he would

be pressing for any hearings to be held in public, as in a

lan Greer were prepared to would be prepared to assist Ritz hotel bill—to prevent the court and attend to give his evidence in public . . . in public.

why the committee then should not meet in public."

the Standards and Privileges Committee, has always argued that evidence must be given to MPs in private. He court of law.

"It is after all, quite clear, that both Neil Hamilton and the fake document used by Peter Preston, former editor give their evidence in public of the Guardian, to get details in the court case. John Major also gave a statement that he ter Jonathan Aitken's Paris

quickly taken into the

thips' office, the usual

Until now, his promotion had been fast. He was

in south Wales.

During the 1970's and 1980's tribunals of inquiry were used to investigate large corporate collapses, the two most famous being the investiga-tion into the Department of eral insurance company in new instead.

Why John Major is not keen on a tribunal of inquiry to deal with the cash for questions scandal

THE setting up of a tribunal of inquiry into the "cash for questions" scandal has an nonourable precedent — dat-

ng back 85 years to 1912. Then a Parliamentary select committee under Lord Asquith's government used its built-in Liberal majority to protect ministers from hostile findings about gambling with shares in the Marconi company. MPs voted by nine to six to whitewash the report. a Ministry of Defence official of shredding munitions documents to prevent an inquiry

Department — the forerunner of the National Audit Office - a bill was passed by Parliament setting up tribunals of

inquiry. The reason was that Parliament could not trust the government not to use the same tactics to cover-up the A tribunal of inquiry runs

on completely different lines to a Parliamentary select committee. It is much closer to a court of law. It is set up by a resolution of both es of Parliament and is usually presided over by a judge, assisted by two QC's. It as similar powers to a court ss; evidence is privileged and on oath, and documents can be demanded. Contempt of the tribunal can be severely punished - two journalists were once jailed for refusing to provide infor-

mation to an inquiry. It can hold an inquiry into any matter "of urgent public importance". Usually inquiries are concerned with mis-conduct of ministers, civil ervants, public corporations, the administration of justice and the conduct of the police.

During the 1920s the system was used by the Home Secretary to investigate three police forces, and in the 1930s an investigation into a budget leak found that the colonial secretary had passed on infor-mation which was used for financial gain by businessmer In 1948 a more widespread inquiry was held by Mr Justice Lynskey into corruption

in government departments.
The biggest inquiries in the
1960s included the Vassall spy case and the Aberran disaster

asco which reported in 1982.

The Crown Agents inquiry million of taxpayers' money to prevent the agency which acts for overseas govern-The inquiry found that ministers — notably Dame Judith oversess development at the time of the flasco in the late

more questions. Since then the use of tribu-nals of inquiry has been phased out Lady Thatcher, who also disliked royal com missions into social problems, was also strongly against tribunals of inquiry because of the time the hear

ings took. John Major yesterday was taking a similar line. On Breakfast with Frost on BBCl, Mr Major rejected calls for the matter to go to a tribu-

PM shares Lady Thatcher's dislike of tribunals: 'It would be kicking it into the long grass'

nal, saying those who wanted that just wanted the matter to drag on for years. That, Mr Major said, would be "kicking it into the long

The strongest example in Whitehall is the recent case of the Orkney child abuse cases which cost the Government over £6 million but ended producing very little new

Other arguments included the £1.5 million cost of the Cleveland sex abuse inquiry. The Government's concer about this was shown in Lord Justice Scott's inquiry into the Arms-for-Iraq affair where it rejected a fullscale tribunal of inquiry because of the amount of cross-examination that would be required meant the hearings would have taken two or three

years.
However, the Scott inquiry had no subpoena powers to require witneses to attend, no evidence on oath and no cross-examination by lawyers epresentating witnesses

If the row over whether the select committee on standards and privileges contin-ues, the Government could try and change tactics and revive a Scott-style inquiry. So far the Prime Minister is sticking to Sir Gordon Dow-

GEOFFREY JOHNSON SMITH

A former media man with a dislike of publicity

ohnson Smith, chairman of

the select committee on mem-

bers' interests, writes Ewen

MacAskill. In fact, his early



by journalists to Sir Geoffrey ground, Sir Geoffrey, aged 72. has become enough of an old school Tory not to welcome publicity, and certainly not the kind associated with sug-gestions of backroom deals career was not in the City with the Government. More tract through her son Mark.



than most parliamentary committees, the select committee of members' interests has to be seen to be com-pletely above board, because it deals with ethics. An early Labour supporter

he fought an election under the Conservative banner in 1965, becoming MP for Hol born and St Pancras in 1959. He shifted further rightwards in the following years, mov-ing through Edward Heath to a knighthood under Margaret He joined the select com

mittee in 1976 and became chairman three years later In 1984, he clashed with Labour MPs Dale Campbell-Savours and Brian Sedge plain about Mrs Thatcher's alleged undisclosed involvement in the Omani arms con-

DAVID WILLETTS

Two Brains a high flier in be too bright

DAVID Willetts is rare among Conservative MPs, an intellectual who does not attempt to hide his cleverness writes Ewen In a parliamentary group in which some members take pride in being labelled 'the stupid party', it is not

party where it is not done to

the done thing to be seen as | lucky to be caught up in the too bright. Mr Willets, even before he became an MP in 1992 was a frequent sight

around Westminster, wan-dering around with brow furrowed, a bit of a loner, animated only when engaged in discussion over ideas rather than gossip. His academic record and

pamphlets have earned him the nickname among colleagues of "Two Brains'. flier will have to be reas sessed because of the turbulence over the memo row. His part in the Hamilton sleaze inquiry may in the end be dismissed by his colleagues as him just doing

his job, the normal role of a

Conservative whip. They

training ground before moving on to a ministerial post. Aged only 40, he has risen to Paymaster General. The MP for Havant was educated at King Edward's, Birmingham, and Oxford, where he took a first in large number of think-tank PPE. He worked at the Treasury before moving in 1984 to Downing Street on secondment. Two years

publicity.

later, he left the Civil Ser-vice to become director of the Centre for Policy Studies. There was chatter about the speed with which he switched from loyalty to Mrs Thatcher to John Trade's handling of the col-Major but that apart, his lapse of the Vehicle and Genmay consider him just un- rise had been smooth.

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Labour pair walk out claiming: 'We were not given all the information that should have been

available to us'





Greer set to stand down as directors quit

David Pallister, David Hencke and Owen Bowcott report on the political lobbyist's future

balance last night after two of his directors resigned and reports suggested that he was planning to stand down and hand over the company, IGA, to his

As a team of Greer executives headed down to the Conservative Party conference last night for their tradition ally lavish party at the Royal Bath Hotel tomorrow, the directors, Robbie MacDuff and Jonathan Hopkins, both former research assistant to

HE future of Ian Labour Party members. Greer as a political accused Mr Greer of with-lobbyist hung in the holding information concerning the scandal from them and other directors.

Mr Hopkins, aged 30, was a former parliamentary officer for the National Union of Teachers. At last year's Conservative Party conference he staunchly defended the lobbying industry on a platform with a Guardian journalist at a fringe meeting organised by the Public Relations and Consultants Association. Mr MacDuff, aged 38, was a

Allan Roberts, late Labour MP for Bootle. He assisted Chris Smith, Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury during the 1992 election. Mr Smith, the shadow health secretary, received £200 from IGA for his campaign fund. He now lives in Edinburgh and was employed on the IGA-associated company. Seiga Political Consultants.

A statement released by Mr

MacDuff said: "Today, two di-rectors of IGA have an-nounced their resignation from the company in all its operations. Both enjoy long membership of the Labour Party and the trade union

"Both believe they have not pany, given all the informa-tion which, they believe,

Ian Greer's home at Kingston in south west London

them."
Mr MacDuff said he has been employed by IGA since Hopkins were both unavail-1989 and was one of the first able for comment last night.

Labour Party activists to move into parliamentary con-sultancy. Mr MacDuff and Mr

Mr Greer's decision to con-sider his future was made at a crisis meeting of executives on Friday, after another di-rector, Baroness Turner of Camden, was forced to quit the Labour front bench in the Lords for publically declaring her continuing support for

Yesterday, Mr Greer and his senior partners met at the Berkeley Hotel in London where he was expected for-mally to declare that he was prepared to stand down and hand over the business.

Mr Greer owns 9,989 of the 10,000 issued shares with the remaining on held by fellow director Andrew Stone, partner in the company's solicitors, Lewis Silkin. The collapse of Mr Greer's

One of IGA's newest clients, the National Union of Teach-Tan Greer was the company and its name has been completely discredited. I can't see ers, said yesterday it was it retaining any clients. Any MP who is approached by a member of IGA on behalf of reviewing its relationship with the company. A spokes

member for Workington, said:

bers interests, said: "My im-pression was that it always

oing to lead to this after The

Guardian started publishing articles about him. I think he

s finished.

inevitable by many MPs. Dale | he could do now is to spill the Cambell-Savours, the Labour | beans and tell us everything

clients is going to be very wary of entering into any been hired in the spring to monitor developments in relationship."
Angela Eagle, the Labour
MP for Wallasey, who sat on Parliament. Ian Greer, who is 63, had talked for some time about the select committee on memretiring and selling his

woman said the company had

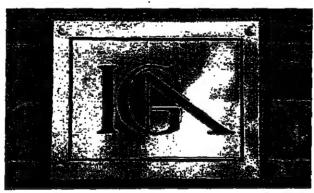
business. In the last year, a number of key staff left to join new companies, included Angle Bray, a former adviser to Chris Patten, the former "I personally never had anything to do with him. All chairman of the Conservative Party who is now Governor of his letters went straight into the bin. I think the best thing

Lobby firm spans party divide

IGA DIRECTORS

Traditional Tories rub shoulders with former trade union officials

Ian Greer Andrew Smith, aged 34. Group managing director. joined the company at the age of 19 in 1984. He was a filing clerk at the Ministry of Agri-culture. He was the Tory can-didate in 1992 in Cynon Val-ley where he lost heavily to Ann Clywd. Describes him-self as "the son Ian never



Andrew Stone. Solicitor, partner in Lewis Silkin, which provided firm with

Ian Greer Associates Ltd.

Ian Greer Andrew Smith
Muriel, Baroness Turner of Camden, aged 69. Former Central Office and at DownResigned yesterday.

IGA companies and their directors:

IGA (Holdings) Ltd Co which provided the firm lan Greer with accountancy services union official, forced to resign from the Labour front bench in Lords after expressing continuing support for Mr Greer. Clive Ferreira, aged 37. Ian Greer's personal assistant, son of a well-connected Goan

business family.

Perry Miller, aged 32, former special adviser to Malcolm Rifkind, when he was transport and defence secre-

Jeremy Sweeney, aged 33. Seconded to help the cam-paign of Graham Bright in the 1992 election in Luton South. Sir Graham was knighted in 1994. A former army officer, he is a traditional Tory, enjoying hunt-ing, fishing and shooting. Robert Macduff, aged 38. Former research assistant to

the Labour MP Allan Roberts; assisted Chris Smith, the Islington Labour MP in 1992 election. Was employed on the Scottish IGA-associated company Seiga Political Con-sultants. Resigned yesterday. Jonathan Hopkins, aged 30. Labour Party member, former parliamentary officer for the National Union of Teachers. At last year's Conserva-tive Party Conference he staunchly defended the lobbying industry on a platform with a Guardian journalist at a fringe meeting organised by the Public Relations and Con-

sultants Association.

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PM urges Downey to publish report

MAJOR INTERVIEW

'In Parliament's interest, this needs to be determined and quickly'

Extracts from the Prime Min-ister's interview yesterday on BBC1's Breakfast with Frost

John Major: I think cash for questions is unacceptable — who was it who established the Nolan Committee against the opposition of many people in Parliament and many people beyond it? I did. Why did I do it? Because I was determined to have a proper arbitration to ensure there was no doubt whatever that Members of Parliament's conduct was above reproach. How did Sir Gordon Downey come to Nolan Committee

If the Government were concerned about perverting with a Tory majority with a Tory majority the natural course of justice, why did I help steer a Bill through the House of Compublish the report If it went to a tribunal it would take were that Neil Hamilton. why did I help steer a Bill through the House of Com-mons so that Neil Hamilton

mons so that Neil Hamilton could take his case in court, and all the documentation could be publicly exposed.

Why did I say I would be prepared to appear in the court case if I had something to hide, or the Government had something to hide?

In the interests of natural justice I am determined that this matter shall be fully examined by Gordon Downey.

amined by Gordon Downey, who will then report to the appropriate House of Commons committee, and it would be my expectation that that report would subsequently be published . . .

and in the interests of natural justice he should, and must, be permitted to do so, and he | - in Parliament's interest this

Sir Gordon Downey come to problem with the Gordon be established? Because of the Downey thing, as opposed to a fact that I had set up the tribunal based on the Act of DF: A matter weeks in the control of the control 1921 or whatever, is that he | than months?

a tribunal it would take years, not weeks. I have said to Gordon Downey this matter is poi-soning British politics because of the way it is being slanted by people. I want it settled. I have said to Gordon Downey. get on with it, settle it as quickly as you can, go back to the committee as quickly as

the committee as quickly as you can. And I say now publicly to the committee: I want you to publish that report.

What I do not want is this kicked into the long grass.

What people who want a tributel want is to have it going on nal want is to have it going on for month after month, per-haps year after year, with all I don't know all the truth of the rumour and innuendo that this affair yet. I want Gordon surround it. In Parliament's Downey to find it out for me, interest — never mind the interest — never mind the Conservative interest, never mind Neil Hamilton's interest

will have the Government's needs to be determined quickly.

David Frost: There are those people who say that the would hope that it's published before the part election?

DF: A matter weeks rather

do, I don't know how much time he can give to it, but if he could have finished it in two or three weeks I would welcome that ... It is very much my wish, my hope and my expectation that this will be cleared up well this side of a general election. DF: And the idea of a debate

as soon as possible?

JM: That should surely follow the report and not pre-cede it. If you're in the middle of this sort of examination it is not reasonable to prejudice it. If the opposition parties don't trust Sir Gordon Dow-ney to carry out the report, let them say so now. If they do trust him - and they seemed very pleased when he was asked to do it - then why do they not let him get on with

When it is finished, if they eek a debate on it — even if the Government denied one - they would have the option of creating one. But let us let him get on with the job, that

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Thousands hit by dole upheaval

Seumas Milne abour Editor

E introduction of the job seeker's allowance, which today replaces unemployment benefit and income support for the unemployed, marks the bigest change to the dole system since 1948 and will deliver sharp cuts in benefits to hundreds of thousands of

The key change is the halving of entitlement to unemployment benefit - paid ner's income — from 12 to six months. From today, everyone who signed on as unem-ployed at the beginning of April and is still out of work will be switched to a means-

That is to be known as "in-come-based JSA", instead of income support. An estimated 250,000 claimants, with savings of over £3,000 or a working partner, will now lose all or some of their dole money after six months.

The halving of the period of the pre-war arrangements is only one of a panoply of dole cuts and penalties introduced as part of the JSA, a legacy of Michael Portillo's period as Employment Secretary. Together they represent a rapid acceleration to a com- the Lib Dems are now com-

The changes

The job seeker's allowance: replaces unemployment benefit and income support halves non-means tested

contributory benefit from 12 to ... cuts contributory benefit for 18-24-year-olds by 20 per cent slashes contributory benefit for

those with non-working partners claimants take low-paid jobs. reduces the hours the longterm unemployed can study from 21 to 16 a week ands the link between unem-

ployment benefit and inflation Cuts availa

lengthens time before dok payments are made

The Government presents the JSA as an attempt to benefits and their delivery at JobCentres and a way of securing "better value for the taxpayer by more effective

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have denounced the JSA as a "savage increase in means-testing", but only

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Smith, Labour's social security spokesman, fought un-successfully to keep the commitment to restore a 12-month unemployment benefit and Labour says it will now only "review" the JSA.

The bureaucratic upheaval caused by the JSA has cost the Government at least £320 million and led to a series of strikes by Employment Service workers over lack of physical protection. It is even-tually expected to save £240 million a year.

Among other changes intro duced as part of the JSA: Around 45,000 18 to 24-yearolds currently able to claim contributory unemployment benefit will have their dole cut even during their first six months out of work.

□ Unlike unemploym efit, the new replacement "contribution-based" JSA will not be uprated with infla-tion and claimants with adult dependents will no longer be entitled to the current supplement, worth up to £70 a week. A quarter of a million people, currently claiming invalidity benefit, will have to claim JSA because they are not disabled enough to qual-ify for the new incapacity benefit. There are fears many will fail the JSA's toughened "availability for work" test.

Underlying all the benefit cuts are a range of new pow-ers to compel the unemployed to take low-paid work or join



Former bakery worker considers himself 'lucky' despite a jobless year to have qualified for benefits that will disappear under changes

ORMER bakery worker Dave Morton has been unemployed for almost a year, but still considers himself lucky. Ever since he signed on after his employers sacked him in a cost-cutting exercise", he has been eligible for a weekly dole of just over

But if he had met the same fate under the Job-

he would no longer be en-titled to automatic unemployment benefit.

After six months he to means-tested "income-based" JSA. And, because he was given a £12,000 pay off from his job, he would not have qualified for any money then, unless he had spent at least £4,000 of his

Under the new rules anyone with £8,000 or more same fate under the Job-seeker's Allowance (JSA) full-time work, will receive regime that comes in today, nothing after six months.

Mr Morton, aged 46, said the change will mean people having a choice be-tween spending their redundancy money quickly

benefits.
"You've got to spend on certain things as well, otherwise they'll query you and won't allow the spending to count. If you get £10,000, you'll have to get rid of threequarters of it just to qualify for full

Mr Morton, unmarried and from Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, counts himself lucky in another way, too: he is not young enough to see his weekly payments drop by 20 per cent, a change applying to under-25s previously entitled to mployment benefit.

apply from today: the job seekers' agreement. It stipulates be attends certain interviews, is available for work, and applies for jobs suggested by advice

workers. He said: "It's going to be looking hard enough for a iob. But, as anyone who has been unemployed for a long time will tell you, most people are trying their ut-most to get jobs and meet the bills."

The pressure may even result in the violence feared by staff at benefits offices under the JSA regime, he added. "I can see it happening with some of memployment benefit.

But he knows he cannot doing well enough.

Youngsters face losing homes

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

HOUSANDS of jobless young people will lose their homes as a result of housing benefit curbs which take effect today, wel-fare groups are warning.

An estimated 135,000 claimants will be affected by the curbs, which will restrict housing benefit payments for single people aged 16-24 to the average cost of shared accom-

The clampdown is part of the drive by Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, to cut the £9 billion-a-year hous-

ing benefit bill.

When he announced the change in the last Budget, Mr Lilley said: "Housing benefit should not provide an incentive for young people to leave the parental home unnecessarily, or to take on high-priced accommodation at the

single people aged 16-24 to the average cost of shared accommodation in the area.

This means that a single person renting a flat, or sharing a relatively expensive house, will not be able to claim the full cost. If they lose in the highest and lowest in the strength of the single people will be determined by local rent officers. They will set a figure at the mid-point between the highest and lowest in the strength of the stre

their job, they will have 13 rents available in the area for weeks to move.

The clampdown is part of shared use of kitchen and the provided in the provided i

The limit will also apply to claimants who move, and -at the next review of their claim — to all those who have entered accommodation since January 2

Centrepoint, the youth homelessness charity, is callhomelessness charity, is call-ing on ministers to think again or at least review the curbs after six months. It warns that it is far from clear that sufficient shared accommodation is available for

young people.

posed local rent limit

In Brent, north London, the proposed limit is £40 a week. But a survey by the London Research Centre, cited by Centrepoint, says the average rent for a bedsit or room in the borough last year was

Crisis, another charity working with the homeless, predicts the impact of the curbs will be "devastating". It says that in areas of high unemployment, most young people leave home not to take advantage of housing benefit, The charity says that in advantage of housing benefit, but to escape high levels of people on housing benefit in family conflict.

Roads sacrificed in quest for tax cuts

Keith Harper Transport Editor

CUT in road spending of Ago per cent — more than £20 per cent — is to be forced on the Department of Transport by the Treasury as the soft option towards secur-ing tax cuts in the Chancel-lor's last Budget before the general election.

The Transport Secretary. Sir George Young, is strongly resisting the plan because the roads programme has had to bear cuts of almost 40 per-cent around £500 million — in the past two years. In this month's opening round of after a further three were fro-public expenditure talks, the zen last week to save cash.

Treasury has been told that spending on new roads is the M11 link road along the down to a trickle.

But with the election looming the DoT is the sacrificial lamb. It is already committed to funding railway privatisation and is opposing spending cuts on an already cashstarved industry. The road budget for the cur-

rent year is £1.6 billion, some of which is being spent on minor improvements to trunk minor improvements to trunk roads. A sign of the Government's tougher stance on roads came yesterday when the Highways Agency conceded that its programme was reduced to three projects.

Road schemes

Schemes to go ahea

1 A34 Newbury bypass 2 A13, widening, Dagenham to M25

3 A40, widening; Hangar Lane to East Acton 4 Extension of M11 into central London



A12 in Hackney, east London, have been extended until after the Budget speech next month, when the agency will be able to assess whether it

has funds for the work.
Under DoT pressure the agency has also decided that it cannot go ahead with £109 million improvements on the A40 London-Oxford road between East Acton and Hangar Lane, west London.

Houses on either side of the road have been demolished

road have been demolished, but the project is now being become available".

offered to the private sector, which will complete it with government help. This is expected to delay it for a year. The three projects to go ahead are the Newbury bypass and two schemes to im-

prove the A13 between Lon-

don and Tilbury. The agency has had to abandon its much-vaunted £20 million scheme to replace all primary route signs over the next three years with signs easier to understand The agency said it hoped to revive it "if and when funds

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On eve of Tory conference, PM sticks to compromise formula but former minister castigates 'untenable' position on single currency

Major rebuffs sceptics over Clarke

'He's both a close ally and an old friend, and he's staying put'

Ewen MacAskill and John Palmer in Dublin

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OHN MAJOR yester day rebuffed calls by Tory Euro-sceptics calling for the Chan-cellor, Kenneth

He went much further than just endorsing Mr Clarke, de-scribing him as a long-standing friend as well as a suc-cessful chancellor. Tory Euro-

sceptics have targeted Mr Clarke in the belief that he is the main obstacle to Mr Major ruling out Britain's entry to a single European

Mr Major again repeated his compromise formula, that it would be foolish for Britain not to engage in discussion with other European countries about a single currency while retaining the op-With the Conservative

Pariy conference due to open in Bournemouth, Mr Major is desperately keen that his party should show the same pre-election restraint exercised by Labour last week and not engage in bitter battles over Europe.

Both Tory Euro-sceptics and pro-Europeans last night predicted that they will try to respect that plea, though ome of the differences will be difficult to disguise, espe-cially at fringe meetings.

Peter Temple-Morris, one of the pro-Europeans, yesterday denied reports that the Tory Reform Group and other left-leaning Conservatives were

plotting to establish a bloc that could do business with Labour after the general election if Michael Portillo or another right-winger becomes party leader.

He said the story was part of a dirty tricks operation, probably planted by Labour to destabilise the conference. In spite of the denial, the Conservatives manoeuvreing with one eye on any post-elec-

Mr Clarke faces the toughest task at the conference and the party organisers will have

call by Tory Euro-sceptic Sir George Gardiner to sack the Chancellor, said: "Nonsense. Ken Clarke is Chancellor of the Exchequer. He's a very close ally of mine, he's a very old and long-standing friend of mine. He's also an excellent

Chancellor of the Exchequer. He's produced the best economy and the best economic prospects we've had in this country for a long time "So Ken Clarke is Chancel-

lor and Ken Clarke is going to stay as Chancellor of the in Europe, in or out of the

He said on BBC1's Breakfast with Frost programme: "The fanciful belief that we could say 'no', sit on the side-lines and there would be no side effects for the UK simply

isn't true."

Earlier, on GMTV, forme foreign affairs minister David Heathcoat-Amory, who the single currency, said the Government's plan to go into the general election without announcing its intentions

Mr Heathcoat-Amory insisted would not enter the single currency and stay at the talks because of its right to be there established under EU

In Dublin, EU leaders shrugged off an appeal by Mr Major to "look before you leap". They committed them-selves on Saturday to finalising a new European Union treaty by next summer with a move to a single European currency just 18 months later. But it was clear they fully expect to conclude a Maas-tricht Two treaty with a new

Mr Major, asked about a | the single currency proceeded | was an "untenable" position. | Labour government. A prime talking point at the Dublin summit was Labour's appointment of former ambassa-dor to Brussels, Sir Michael Butler, as special European

envoy.
"Everybody knows Sir
Michael and his strongly pro-European views. We should do all we can to assist Labour as it finalises its views on the new treaty. Then, hopefully, we will be able to conclude the negotiations as soon as possible after the UK general election," one senior EU dip-lomat said yesterday.

Former Tory treasurer goes with Goldsmith

ORD McAlpine, Conser vative Party treasurer during the Thatcher years, has switched allegiance to Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party and will chair its conference next week, he will announce tonight on the eve of the Con-servatives' gathering in

Lord McAlpine will say on BBC1's Panorama pro-gramme that he has already confided in Baroness Thatcher on his change of allegiance and that he is not "People talk in terms of

traitors and they blame people for changing their minds," he says on the pro-gramme. "For God's sake, it's a mobile thing, politics.
"I don't need any converting to the point of view of the

converting back to the Con-



Lord McAlpine . . . Tories

servative.

Tory party chairman. Brian Mawhinney. Lady Thatcher will appear at the opening session of the Bournemouth conference but will not speak. She will contrive to endorse John Major in front of TV cameras when they meet in the afternoon.

Tonight's Panorama, en-titled The Billionaire Candidate, is expected to examine the ties between Sir James and the Euro-sceptic wing of the Tory Party. It will reveal that Sir

James, a maverick figure on the right wing of the political and business scene for many years, donated hundreds of thousands of pounds a year to the Tories when Lady That-cher was prime minister. He has since given money to Bill Cash's European Foundation, a sceptics' think-tank — until the Tory MP for Stafford was

forced to reject his support. Lord McAlpine says: "If the Referendum Party was stand-ing. I think I would have to break a habit of a lifetime and probably vote for them." But he is a peer and has no vote. He also lives in Italy. Persistent rumours of what

Thatcher's flirtation with Sir James over the campaign for referendum on European ederalism — as distinct from one on a single currency, which Mr Major has conceded ney on September 3 at her office in Belgrave Square.
Though described as routine, it reflected annual jitters about what she might do during the conference season.
"She seems to have come

back on-side after a flirtstion," said a Tory official. 'not very Conservative'



All quiet on the Bournemouth seafront . . . but the town is a battleground between Tories and Liberal Democrats

Wind of change sweeping away the blues

plers, its promenades and its tucks into her fish and covered gardens was like a chips. On holiday in fuiry place, suddenly created Bournemouth, she is the cal indicators the 4,000 mouth suffered. "That had by the stroke of a wand and kind of family person with allowed to get a little dusty. — two children Bourne- worse than look at the local fore," said Douglas Eyre, mouthians welcome.

For 51 weeks of the year the bucket and spade brigade, pensioners sitting on park benches and the rich in their yachts are the life

place, with its stations, its tightly around her and who will crowd its bars and middle class and well-to-do. restaurants. In their search for politi-

> situation. The town is a leader of the Liberal Demobattlegound between the crat group on the council, "poor on propaganda",
> Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats, a metaphor 1991 elections. When he message more. There is still eral Democrats, a metaphor 1991 elections. When he for the political battle tak-

down." The Liberal Demo-But in 1990 there was a recession and Bournebeneficiaries. Robert Chapman, the

"poor on propaganda", adding: "We must sell the message more. There is still time to get the voters in their yachts are the life ing place across southern blood of the town. This along the promenade, elizabeth Parsons vative Party, the media and sould seem traditional that had been Conservative lieve what he is saying.



Teenager hopes to set a conference record

JEMMA Nicholls (above), GCSE student, Oasis fan and would-be doctor, is a pas-sionate advocate of the 'prison works' school of thought, writes Geoffrey

The 14-year-old from Cheltenham is hoping to become the youngest speaker to address the party faithful this week. Her subject: Crime and

"I will be backing Michael tences, the end of automatic parole and stronger sentences for drug pushers and persis

ham's Bournside School, comes from a family steeped in Conservative politics. Her for more than 100 years. son, a self-employed charity felt suddenly very let fund-raiser, contested the Makerfield and Ashfield constituencies at the last two elec-tions and is now prospective parliamentary candidate for Tewkesbury.

Her mother, Susan, is an But political issues form

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tent burglars," she says. Jemma, a pupil at Chelten

active party member, and her maternal grandfather was the Conservative leader of Little Lever council in Lancashire. only part of Jemma's life. She says her preferred reading is horror books.

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Vranitzky: Faces big losses

Haider puts a mine under Vienna's socialist bastion

The city's monument to leftwing hegemony is falling to the far right Report: lan Traynor. Main picture: David Sillitoe



N THE city which right, led by the telegenic the first time in its demo-proudly boasts the high- Jörg Halder. This time, with- cratic history, and that there st proportion of public housing of any west Euro-pean capital, there is no stronger symbol of "Red Vi-enna" than the Karl Marx-Hof. The vast expressionist bastion (above) in the north of the city was built in the Twenties, one of the continent's most ambitious urban In next Sunday's elections

housing projects for the poor. A few years later it became a battlefield as the socialists slaught of rightwing "Austro-fascist" paramilitaries. Now the working-class tenants of the 1,400 flats, which were modernised a couple of years are being wooed by the new the Social Democrats will lose "yuppie-fascist" Austrian absolute control of the city for are being wooed by the new

out a shot being fired, the Karl Marx-Hof may fall. 'Tve always voted social-

said Franz, a market worker who lives in the block. "But this time it's a big question mark. This govern-ment is all promises and noth-

to the Vienna council and the European Parliament, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky's Social Democrats (formerly fer substantial losses, while Mr Haider's Freedom Party. the most popular far-right party in the West, chalks up more gains.

cratic history, and that there will be a sizeable anti-EU vote, two years after two out of three Austrians said yes to membership and 20 months after Mr Vranitzky took the country into the union.

Franz, who is 55 and de-clined to give his surname, did not say explicitly he was switching his vote to Mr Haider, but he effectively recited the Haider manifesto to explain what was bother-

stopped, Austria's net contri-butions to the EU budget reimbursed, and a crackdown on crime - in one of Europe's safest cities.

work, but they're exploiting our welfare state. And I've got nothing against [phone] bugging if it prevents crime.
They can bug me, I've got nothing to hide." All of this is lifted from Mr Haider's skilful soundbites.

Mr Haider's campaign promises to breaking "red monopoly rule" in the capital, rails against Maastricht and the proposed single European currency, and fans xenophobia. Playing on their diffuse, un-

is warning Franz and his fellow tenants in Karl Marx-Hof that Turkish immigrants will steal their flats and that their savings will be wiped out by

ing against foreigners if they rally. "If the drachma rubs up against the strong schilling, obviously the schilling will be weakened and your savings will be worth less.'

The result is that workingclass and elderly Viennese are turning away in droves from their traditional party, the Social Democrats, towards Mr Haider's angry rightwingers.
'This will be unprece-

that other world where the when he tripled his vote and Social Democrats always had supplanted the (Christian ram, head of the Fessi polling | Party as the second force in

institute.

"Haider is scoring well with the poor and the pensioners on the issues of job "For too long we've only had Red politicians in Vienna," he said. "Tve got noth- Istanbul." he told a weekend Democrat vote will fall by tumbling down."

cent, in the city elections, and by perhaps a third, compared with the last general election. in the European poll. This is Austria's first European

Mr Haider is scoring about 25 per cent in the opinion polls, almost three points up on last December.

His big breakthrough with the working class came in the dented in Vienna, the and of last Vienna elections, in 1991, Democrat) Austrian People's the city.
"I voted for EU member-

ship in the referendum,' Franz said. "But now we see it's a big tower of Babel and the whole thing could come

the general will be shown every aspect of the alliance

World news in brief

'Spy' arrest fuels tension in Korea

WASHINGTON was dragged further into escalating tensions on the Korean peninsula yesterday after North Korea said it had arrested a United States citizen spying for South Korea, A South Korean security official dismissed the charge as a fabrication, and the US embassy in the capital Seoul could not confirm details about the alleged agent.

The Korean Central News Agency said Evan Carl Hunzhe-

was arrested on August 24 by a North Korean security organisa-tion after he crossed the Amnok river on the Chinese border with North Korea. The KCNA did not give further details or explain why he had been held since late August. "He admitted he is a US citizen and that he illegally entered the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the purpose of getting information on its domestic situation," it said.

The charge drags Washington deeper into a feud between the North and South over the deaths of 22 of 26 North Koreans who landed from a submarine in the South last month. Pyongyang wants the return of the vessel, along with survivors and the bodies of the dead crew. - Reuter, Seoul.

Papai plea for prayers

POPE JOHN PAUL asked the world's Roman Catholics to pray for him yesterday before he entered Rome's Gemelli hospital for surgery to remove his appendix. "In asking you to accompany me with your prayer, I send cordial greatings to those in hospitals and clines, knowing I can count on their spiritual solidarity," he told tens of thousands of people in St Peier's Square at the end of a beatification ceremony.

The Pope, who looked tired during the three-hour ceremony, has had major abdominal surgery three times since 1981. Some medical experts and Italian media have expressed scepticism about what the Vatican says is a recurrent inflammation of his appendix. He is likely to have the operation tomorrow. - Reuter

John Hooper, page 9; The problem with John Paul, G2, page

Belgian police search tunnel

BELGIAN police stepped up the search of an abandoned rufner tunnel yesterday after the chief suspect in the couunity's paedo. phile scandal indicated something was hidden there. Eng were brought in to pump water and mud from the partly flooded tunnel in the mine near the southern town of Jumet.

Police officials said Marc Dutroux had given no indication of what they might find. Police denied they were searching for bodies, but Belgian television reported specialists in corpse idea tification at the scene.

Dutroux, a convicted child-abuser, is accused of playing a leading role in a kidnapping and paedophile ring respons the deaths of at least four young girls. — AP, Brussels.

German fire test fans anger

EUROPEAN officials are likely to approve new regulations for the sefety testing of building materials for flammability today, despite fears from firefighters that standards will be reduced. The neeting in Brussels of the European Commission's standing committee on construction is preparing to adopt fire tests used in Germany in an attempt to harmonise more than 60 different fire-

standards regulations across Europe.

There are suggestions in Brussels that the Germans are trying to pressure other member states to accept the test because they do not want to change their own procedures.

The move to accept the German standard is being made despite-protests from Britain's Fire Brigades Union that the German tests are less satisfactory than those in place elsewhere. If approved, the new standard is likely to be enforced across Europe from 1999. — Stephen Bates, Brussels

Children march for fresh air

ABOUT 400 children marched through the streets of Tehran yesterday demanding swift action to end air pollution in the Iranian capital. The children, aged six and seven, carried banners calling for people and the environment to be protected from pollution caused by factories and vehicles. "Life is good only under a blue sky. Elders, fathers, the smoke of your cars has made our lives black," said one placard. The march was sponsored by the Women's Campaign for

Protecting the Environment and was licensed by the government. Many people in the city of 10 million complain of irritated eyes and breathing difficulties. -AP, Tehran.

Labour gain in New Zealand

New Zealand's Labour Party has closed the gap on the ruling National Party less than a week before a general election, accord-ing to a TVNZ opinion poll yesterday. The poll showed support for the National Party dropping six points to 34 per cent, Labour surged up six to 24 per cent. — Reuter, Wellington.

Turkish visitor

Chris Nuttail in Ankara

HE Turkish prime minister, Necmettin Erba-kan, came under fire at home again yesterday for trying to strengthen ties with the Muslim world. At the same time, the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Gadafy, delivered a slap in the face to his efforts to improve "brotherly" relations. In a face-to-face meeting in

the Libyan coastal town of Sirte, Col Gadafy criticised Turkey's suppression of Rurdish separatists in its southeast and its relations with the United States. "The state of Kurdistan should take its place in the spectrum of nations under the Middle Eastern sun." he said. "Turkey should not fight against people seeking their independence."

to be confused and shocked by the Libyan leader's remarks in front of about 50 Turkish journalists accompanying him on his controversial African tour. "We don't have a Kurdish problem, we have a terrorism problem," he said

in an embarrassed response. Whatever the many differences between the prime minister's pro-Islamic Welfare Party and the other, secular, parties in the Turkish political system, all agree that the Kurdish separatist guerrillas of the PKK are terrorists and that Turkey's national unity and territorial integrity must be preserved at all costs.

The Turkish opposition leader, Mesut Yilmaz, said yesterday that Mr Erbakan deserved everything he got for going to see the Libyan home and abroad. "If a terrorist dictator can try to teach a great country like Turkey these kinds of lessons, then

invaded Turkey, built bases on its soil and used those bases against Iraq," he said. "We oppose US bases in Turkey and membership in

These comments were less of a problem for the prime minister, who had voiced similar complaints while in oppo-sition. Since taking office in leader of modern Turkey, he has gone out of his way to show supporters that he is not unduly influenced by the United States.

His first major foreign trip took him to Iran to seal an important natural gas deal in the same week that the US president, Bill Clinton, announced sanctions against those investing heavily in the Libya, countries he considers state sponsors of terrorism.

Before the meeting with the Lihyan leader. Mr Erbakan announced that trade should be tripled, with Turkey importing nearly £1.3 billion-worth of oil each year. Mr Erbakan was going on to visit Nigeria yesterday, another pariah in the eyes of the West because of its human rights record. He has spoken of im-proving relations with Cuba and was dissuaded by the Turkish foreign ministry from including Sudan on his African itinerary, another country listed as a state sponsor of terrorism by the Clin-

ton administration. Turkey currently has a with the Welfare Party's coalition partner, the True Path Party (DYP), taking a tradi-tional pro-Western line. The DYP leader and foreign minis-ter, Tansu Ciller, has de-scribed the visit to Libya as ill-timed and the interior min-ister. Mehmet Agar, a DYP member, threatened to resign that's the fault of our prime minister," he said.

Col Gadafy went on to criticise Turkey's relations with its closest ally, the United problem.

Includer, unreatened to resign over the trip because of earplicked 1 included picked 1 included pick

Gadafy deflates Lebed retreats from threat to Nato

The hard man from Moscow has softened his response to the alliance's expansion plans, **John Palmer** reports in Brussels.

Chief, General Alex-ander Lebed, who last week spoke of a possible military response if Nato goes ahead with its planned expansion to central Europe, arrived at Nato headquarters in Brussels yesterday hinting at a more flexible Russian

Gen Lebed called for "a complicated but civilised dialogue" with Nato over European security. Speaking to journalists as he arrived for his first visit to a Western country, Gen Lebed — a potential succes-sor to the ailing President yeltsin — said he had brought with him some proposals for future relations with Nato. "Yes, there are some new proposals. But first of all they are for the cast of line had been some the cast of line had been some the cast of line water comparison. ears of [the Nato secretary-

OSCOW'S security | general] Javier Solana," he | rity." But he said he had

Before he left Moscow, Interfax quoted an unnamed Russian security council official as saying: "A Lebed opposes Nato expansion and will inform the leadership of the alliance about possible negative consequences of such a

In an interview with the German news magazine Der Spiegel, to be published today. Gen Lebed declared: The threat supposedly posed by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact five or 10 years ago no longer exists. But Nato formulates and realises its aims and tasks just as it did before." In Brussels yesterday
Gen Lebed said: "We will
evaluate the situation from
the point of view of Rusinterests and secu-

been misrepresented in Western reports that he had threatened Nato with a new deployment of Russia's "rusty" nuclear missiles if it admitted the Czech republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia.

"Some commentators of ill-will have been saying that Lebed is threatening Nato with nuclear weapons and saying Russia is ready to occupy some of these countries if there is the slightest move of Nato to the east. These are the worst fairy tales of the Cold War," he said.

Nato is attaching great importance to Gen Lebed's visit to its political and military headquarters as well as to the Western European the EU. "relations"During his visit to Nato with Nato.

and how it functions. He will see that we already have senior Russian generals liaising with Nato at our military headquarters in Mons," one Nato diplomat said. Nato has proposed a new

"Russia/Nato Charter" to cover all aspects of a close European security partner-ship, in parallel with a limited enlargement to central Europe. Although President Yeltsin opposes any Nato enlargement, there have been signs that Mos-cow might accept some ex-pansion if it did not involve stationing foreign troops or nuclear weapons closer to Russia's borders.

Moscow is seeking guar-antees that other countries auxious to join Nato — no-tably the Baltic states will not be admitted without its consent. It also wants to establish a 'relationship of equals"

Bordeaux town hall bombed

Claude Canellas

RANCE'S prime minister, Alain Juppé, toured his bombed offices in the city of Bordeaux, where he is mayor, yesterday as investigators said Corsican separatists might be responsible Hours after a device damaged the elegant 18th century

town hall, blowing out windows but causing no casual-ties, Mr Juppé flew from Paris under heavy escort but refused to speculate on the culprits. Mr Juppé, who had left his south-western power base only four hours before the blast late on Saturday, picked his way through a mess of broken glass, wrecked antique furniture and

The device went off at



Police investigators inside Bordeaux's town hall, where a bomb exploded on Saturday PHOTOGRAPH: MICHEL LACROIX

local officials on Saturday morning and where a Franco-British summit was due to take place next month. "I am not the kind of man

11.41pm local time outside the prevail." he told reporters hall, where Mr Juppé had met | adding that he would meet interior and justice ministers today to discuss what measures should be taken.

Wood panelling suffered from the blast, and the who lets himself be intimi- painted ceiling was cracked. first on the mainlan dated. The rule of law will French windows were blown eral years. — Reuter

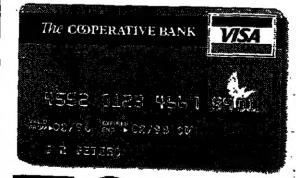
also damaged Juppé's own

"I heard a huge explosion then saw a cloud of smoke in the sky," said a witness. The Bordeaux prosecutor, Patrice Davost, said no warning had been issued and no one had responsibility. claimed

Investigators said separatist guerrillas waging a long bomb-ing campaign on the French Mediterranean island of Cor-sica might have planted the device, reportedly made up of

plastic explosive or dynamite. The Corsican National Liberation Front-Historical Wing last week claimed responsibility for a bomb outside the law courts in the southern city of Aix-en-Provence, the first on the mainland for sevTHE COPERATIVE BANK

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Republican

candidates

ublican candidates for the House of Representatives

and the Senate will be locked

in anguished telephone con-

sultations this morning try-ing to decide whether their

presidential candidate Bob Dole did well enough in last night's television debate to keep them from deserting their party's standard-bearer.

"My advice is do what you have to do in your own con-stituency to win," the Repub-

lican congressional leader.

Newt Gingrich, advised his fretting troops on the eve of the debate.

The 90-minute encounter in

Hartford, Connecticut, was

the last real chance for Mr

Dole to reverse his ebbing

support in the opinion polls and the two candidates were

intensely rehearsed for the

modern equivalent of a medi-

eval trial by ordeal.

Mr Clinton was prepared for a much-rumoured announcement that retired gen-

eral Colin Powell would be secretary of state in a Repub-lican administration. Mr Dole

had a discreet private break-fast with Gen Powell last

Thursday at which he pressed America's best-known Afri-can-American Republican to

rally to his side.

Mr Dole prepared for his ordeal by flying in George

Bush for a personal lunch-

But the debate was fore-doomed to be a hollow occa-sion. The absence of the

Reform Party candidate Ross Perot robbed it in advance of

much of its potential policy substance. Mr Perot's obses-sion with the need to protect

American jobs could have punctured the Dole-Clinton

consensus on free trade.

Mr Dole had to make the debate a bold rescue operation by reminding the voters

of their deep-seated doubts about Mr Clinton's character while convincing them that,

for once, they could believe a presidential candidate who promised a 15 per cent tax

"There is so much cyni-cism," Mr Dole's vice-presi-dential running mate, Jack Kemp, grumbled to an inter-viewer last week. "People just

don't trust politicians to

carry out their promises. It's going to take time to show that we are serious."

With the Dow Jones stock-

market index apparently

about to break the record of 6,000 points, unemployment at 5 per cent and the economy growing at 4.7 per cent a year.

Mr Clinton would have been content last night to rest on

He was given a useful extra boost yesterday when two

leading environmental groups, the Sierra Club and the

League of Conservation Vot-

ers, formally endorsed his re-election, despite the Green Party candidacy of the con-

sumers' advocate Ralph

Yawn away from victory, Q2

his happy economic record.

Martin Walker In Washington

prayers MAE'S BOT.

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Monday October 118

Spring seeks role for **EU** in Israel

> John Palmer in Dublin and Derek Brown in Jerusalem

HE European Union made a defiant interven-tion in the Middle East peace process last night by sending the Irish foreign min-ister, Dick Spring, to Jerusa-lem to seek a bigger EU role in negotiations on the Israeli

The United States secretary of state, Warren Christopher, also arrived in Jerusalem for the latest round of the talks his country is sponsoring. He urged the Israeli prime minis-ter, Binyamin Netanyahu, and the Palestinian Authority president, Yasser Arafat, to make rapid progress.

Despite Tel Aviv's initial opposition and Washington's marked lack of support, EU leaders meeting in Dublin insisted that Mr Spring, representing the EU presidency, should meet Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat today. The EU governments are

also thinking of appointing a also thinking of appointing a permanent representative to the Middle East, in a role similar to that played by Carl Bildt in Bosnia. The former Spanish prime minister Felipe González is one of those being considered for the job. As the Dublin summit discussed the Middle East crisis there were persistent reports.

there were persistent reports that Mr Christopher had sent a message asking the EU not to get too closely involved in the talks. The Israeli govern-ment had already made clear its anger at the EU foreignministers' condemnation last week of Israel's refusal to implement the existing peace agreements, calling on it to withdraw from Hebron, and opposing its claim to sover-

eignty over all Jerusalem. President Hosni Mubarak

doctors, teachers and

Kabul, the Afghan capital,

start a second week at

home, Western aid agencies

have decided not to con-

front the Taliban authori-

ties over the ban on work-ing women and its closure

After two long and ago-

nised meetings, the non-governmental organisa-

tions operating in Afghanistan are taking a

softly-softly approach in a joint statement which will be handed today to Mullah

Mohammad Ghaus, the acting foreign minister in the

new caretaker government. Mullah Ghaus, who also belongs to the Taliban's all-

powerful six-man ruling

council, gave the first press

conference yesterday since the fundamentalist militia captured Kabul 10 days

ago. He made it clear that the government wants in-

"We hope all countries will take an active part in the reconstruction of our country. Without foreign assistance it will be hard

for Afghanistan to stand on

He repeatedly pleaded for aid, saying it had been wrong for the outside world to "neglect" Afghani-

stan after the Soviet Union

ternational goodwill.

its feet," he said.

other professionals in



10015D

A Palestinian woman calmly balances her burden as she passes through the Bethlehem-Jerusalem checkpoint, reopened by Israel yesterday after a 10-day security closure of the main Arab towns in the West Bank PHOTOGRAPH: EYAL WARSHAVSKY | Wily debater" at the podium.

of Egypt, uncomfortably dis- | tant from the centre of the stage, delivered a sharp rebuke to Israel President Bill Clinton called for part nership and early tangible

After the long day of public and private exhortations the negotiators finally met last night in the bleak new confer ence chamber on the Israeli aide of the Erez crossing, on the border of the Gaza Strip.

The first session was ex-pected to be largely ceremonial and agenda-setting. The real business will begin today and could last for several

Mr Netznyahu is reported to have urged his negotiators, led by Dan Shomron, to seek an early deal on the crucial Hebron issue, in response to heavy pressure from Washington to restore some life to the Oslo peace accords before there will be a catastrophe."

Agencies bite bullet in Kabul

The ban on working women has led to an | most every aid project. The United Nations High Com-

this would be interference

in the country's internal af-fairs, his insistent calls for

help showed he understood

the country was in a weak position. "No government has officially declared its recognition." he admitted.

Nevertheless, the domi-

'We work on the

Taliban will need

time to reassess'

nant mood among the international aid community in

Kabul is to give the Taliban

time and not turn the issue of the veil into a clash of principle. The NGOs' joint statement to the authori-

ties is understood to say the agencies "respect the local

cultures of Afghanistan". It contains no hint of withdrawal of aid if the Ta-

liban's position of women is not changed. Privately.

however, agency officials say aid is the international

community's only leverage.
For the time being, all agencies have told their women staff not to come to

was forced to withdraw. Al- meant the collapse of al- fam would take lightly.

basis that the

aid crisis. Jonathan Steele reports from

the Afghan capital on the gentle approach

S thousands of women though he implied that Afdectors, teachers and conditions for aid, since

next month's US presidential elections.
But he firmly refused to talk of target dates yesterday What we seek is a simulta neous recommitment by both sides to the principles that both signed up to in Oslo," he

said. Mr Mubarak who, having failed to get Mr Netanyahu to talks in Cairo turned down an invitation to the Washington summit, chided Mr Netan yahu for saying he was com-mitted to peace but wanted new negotiations on existing

"The principle of renegotia tion is a dangerous one," he sald in a television interview. "These are agreements that are internationally recognised, that were signed here in Egypt and in the United

missioner for Refugees

runs programmes for

women in tailoring, carpet-

weaving, and jewellery making. They are paid in

cash or food. But pro-

grammes for young men in mechanics, car repairs and

masonry have also stopped

because women help to

Despite the crisis, the big agencies claim the gentle approach is best. "We're not a human rights organisa-

tion, we're a human assis

tance programme," said

Thomas Gurtner, deputy head of the International

Committee of the Red Cross. "We work on the basis

that the Taliban will need

time to reassess," said Charles McFadden, direc-

tor of Acbar, which acts as a central advocate for 74 agencies. "They've got all these boys from the villages

who've never seen women except behind a veil and are

now running around

Sue Emmott of Oxfam feels organcy and principle are crucial. Faced with the

order to send female staff

home, she sent the male staff too. "I wanted to send

are handled equally. We don't want to be confronta-

tional. We're just trying to

demonstrate who we are

If the Taliban fail to change their anti-women policy. Oxfam may have to

suspend its operations, she

and what we believe in."

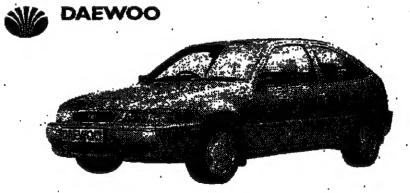
work. In practice, this has said. It is not a decision Ox-

monitor them.

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Canada seeks land mine ban by 2000

Graig Turner in Ottawa

CANADA will put forward an international treaty to ban land mines by 2000 and invite other nations to sign it here next year.

The foreign minister, Lloyd | thously to the initiative. Axworthy, announced the inithree-day conference on land mines attended by delegates from 70 countries in the Canadian capital: He acted after the participating governments failed to agree a date | ive," said Karl F Inderfurth, | year. — Los Angeles Times

countries endorse a prohibi- the United Nations. tion, but disagree about how extensive it should be and

whether to allow exemptions. The United States opposed a deadline for enacting a treaty. and US officials reacted cau-

"We're not prepared to set a tiative at the weekend after a date, but we are prepared to three day conference on land start work immediately on an agreement to ban land mines. If it can take place within that time frame, and our concerns can be met, we'll be support-

for enforcing a han, Almost 50 | the deputy US ambassador to The United States has declared a moratorium on the export of mines, is destroying 3 million mines in its stockpile and is backing a UN resolution for a worldwide ban-But it wants the Demilitarised Zone between North and South Korea to be exempt, saying mines are needed to protect the South from attack. Some 110 million mines are in place worldwide, killing or injuring 26,000 people a

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The Greering of Britain

How Parliament was polluted

JOHN MAJOR got it half right yesterday in his table-thumping breakfast with Sir David Frost. "This matter is poisoning British politics." he exclaimed. And if only he had left it at that and not added "because of the way it is being slanted by people" he might have given the impression that he comprehended the gravity of the case. As it was he seemed to suggest it was all froth whipped up by a slanted media, an impression his press office reinforced by beginning unattributably to brief against the Guardian yesterday. (Expect more denigration of this newspaper in the days ahead. That was certainly the tactic used against the Sunday Times when it mounted its own inquiry into cash for questions two years ago.)

. The Hamilton affair is now in danger of degenerating into something between a quagmire and a farce because we are entering a territory without maps and we are in the hands of people who appear to have little or no understanding of the issues involved. Mr Major has such a rudimentary knowledge of the scale of the case or the procedures he wants to employ that he yesterday expressed a wish that Sir Gordon Downey could report "in two or three weeks." Sir Gordon, who works only part-time with the aid of two secretaries, admitted frankly yesterday that this was an impossible timescale.

Then we have Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, who, as Chairman of the Members' Interests Committee, sought guidance from a Government whip on how his supposedly independent committee should neuter the Hamilton inquiry when it first landed on his desk in October 1994. Sir Geoffrey now assures us that this secret discussion had no effect on the eventual deliberations of the committee, even though the twin outcomes of the committee's hearings were precisely in line with the two options discussed with the whip, David Willetts. But no senior Conservative — not Mr Major, not Dr Mawhinney, not anyone — had the courage yesterday to say unequivocally that this was an utterly improper conversation for these two men to have had.

Since Sir Gordon is now the panacea pleaded by the Government on all occasions it is worth considering whether he can possibly get at the truth, as Mr Major apparently desires. The reason why legal proceedings get at the truth (and the reason why Hamilton ran away from them) is because evidence is given in public and on oath. It is tested by cross-examination, and by comparison with contemporary accounts and docu-ments. Witnesses proved to lie face jail for perjury. In the adversary system, the truth is sifted and declared by a jury instructed by a judge. Alternatively, with a Tribunal of Inquiry, it is the judge who gives the verdict in an authoritative and reasoned report. Either model

produces an acceptable form of justice. Compare this with Sir Gordon's task. He is, in effect, the clerk to a back-bench committee. He has at present sional help. He legal, political or moral. Without the say-so of his committee, which has a Conservative majority (including the ubiquitous Geoffrey Johnson Smith), he cannot subpoena documents, or compel attendance or call witnesses on oath, let alone have anyone punished because they have lied to him. As we contemplate the 45-ring binders of evidence collected by the Guardian, which will take several weeks for Sir Gordon to read, let alone to analyse, we remember our lawyers' estimate that Hamilton and Greer would each be grilled for a week in the witness box. We cannot see how, with the best will in the world, Sir Gordon alone is conceivably

up to the task of getting at the truth. So the Prime Minister's damage limitation tactic — a rushed and secret report by Sir Gordon to the Standards and Privilege Committee — will not command any kind of public acceptance. The committee is chaired by Tony Newton and must permit no fewer than four Conservative law officers to join its deliberations. Now the Willetts memorandum is out of the bag why should anyone have faith that this body will be a more rigorous court than the previous committee to have heard the Hamilton case

This is no kind of substitute for a court or a Tribunal It is not independent and it is not impartial.

Nor is it thorough. Sir Gordon has no terms of reference and preliminary indications suggest that he will confine his secret inquiries to Mr Hamilton's envelopes. This in fact is the least important part of the story. The true corruption lies in the way that Ian Greer was able on behalf of Mohammed Al Fayed to compromise the senior officers of a key Tory back-bench committee and pass it off to Ministers as an independent reflection of the opinions of Conservative MPs. Unless Sir Gordon sends a forensic accountant into all lan Greer's books he will never appreciate how this firm operated by influence-buying and influence-peddling. Most explosively he will need to look at the services Hamilton performed for Greer and his clients while a DTI Minister because it was by this route, the Guardian believes (on evidence we have seen but cannot disclose) that the lobbyist's poison spread from the veins of the body politic into the heart of John

Major's government. Unless Sir Gordon investigates all this we will never get to the truth of this scandal. And if he cannot do that then he cannot live up to the expectations of his role now raised by the Prime Minister. He should have the dignity to say so and refuse to participate in a charade rather than risk his own reputation by doing so. That would pull the rug from under the Government's damage-limitation exercise and leave it with no alternative but to set up a Tribunal of Inquiry with statutory power to get at the truth.

It need not take very long. The Guardian is as ready today to present its evidence in public to a Tribunal as it was eager last week to present it in public to a court. Mr Hamilton and Greer have had two years to prepare their case. Their new lawyers would be paid from public funds and should be ready in a month. Stage one of the Inquiry could thus begin in November and be completed by Christmas. It would take the form of the libel action the public would now be hearing if Greer and Hamilton had not backed down. The judge could report in January and then proceed to stage two: an examination of the MPs and Ministers paid or rewarded by Ian Greer and what they did for his money. A number of Conservative MPs would be entitled to legal representation at this stage, but the hearings should only take a month and the report could be published before the election and tails but into a clean shirt and suit uncreased by a day the inspector told me,



Letters to the Editor

Castle takes the Field

RANK FIELD has changed his line of attack (Letters, October 4). Having failed to produce costings of his alternative plan to make us all join private funded schemes be now switches his grounds. Even if the next Labour Government, he argues, were to restore Serps to its original value, there would be nothing to stop a subsequent Tory government from mutilating it again. A private funded pension, he claims, would be

more secure. That must ring hollowly in the ears of millions who have been bribed to the tune of £16billion to contract out of Serps and occupational schemes into the insecurity of the Appropriate Personal Pensions lottery. Indeed, two thirds are believed to depend wholly on rebates from Serps and make no contributions of their own. So detrimental has the choice proved to be for so many that the Office of Fair Trading has just announced

an inquiry.
If the next Labour Government were to spend the pub-licity budget of the DSS on ex-planing the security which Serps offers and were to ensure that every member received an annual statement acquired under it, we could build up the same loyalty to Serps as has protected the NHS from the worst manifestations of a marauding Tory

government. Barbara Castle. House of Lords. London SWIA OAA. Emeritus Professor of Social Policy, University of Bristol Bristol BS8 1TH.

COMBINED a period of well paid work before marriage paying full contributions, followed by 17 years of marriage and three children, during which time my husband paid a married man's contribution, and a further period of more than 10 years' work during which I paid my own contributions. However, my pension is £41.68 a week. Why? The DSS's iniquitous ruling is that "unfortunately you can-not receive both the pension earned on your own contribu-tions and that earned from a married woman's entitlement". But these two entitlements refer to different sec tions of my life — why should I not have them both? Name and address supplied.

Sleaze watch (cont.)

HE fact that the amendment which permitted Neil Hamilton to waive Neil Hamilton to waive parliamentary privilege and sue the Guardian for libel was put down by Loxd Hoffman, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, after he was sounded out by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, is worrying (Law Lord's "favour" that backfired on MP. October 2). on MP, October 2). Was Lord Mackay doing his

sounding while wearing his wig as head of the judiciary or his dubious hat as a Conservative Cabinet Minister? Why did the Lord Chancellor feel it was appropriate to "sound out" a Law Lord? What, precisely, was said between the two? Did anybody "sound out" Lord Mackay before he spoke to Lord Hoffman. If so, what was said to Lord Mackay and by whom? Did the Lord Chancellor never appreciate that the issue was a political one? Why did it take Lord Hoffman so long to discover that the issue was "becoming a political issue"? Why did he not say so when he saw "all those people including Mrs (sic) Thatcher" turning up "making it look as if some sort of whip-like activity had gone

It is a convention of the con-

in a word. .

Appeal in Ordinary sit in the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords; equally that the Law Lords do not involve themselves in political issues. If these conventions are now ignored by the politically naive, is there not a case or removing the functions of the Law Lords to a place where there is no danger of political

If there is to be an inquiry, who will appoint the judicial chairman? Roy Roebuck. 12 Brooksby Street,

HE GUARDIAN'S efforts.

via the admirable work of Alan Rusbridger and Peter Preston to hose out the sleaze in the Government benches and Tory-loaded select com-mittees, make the task of Her-acles, of cleansing the Augean

London N1 1HA.

stables, appear child's play. Heracles, at least, was not thwarted by an amoral bunch of Tory grandees who, in order to prevent his cleansing operation, made every effort to cut off the supply of water from the privatised water authorities. John Sheeran.

SO Neil Hamilton wisely decided not to go to the reception at 10 Downing Street given, believe it or not for/by the Adam Smith Institute (And the gifts, Mr Hamilton? October 3).

What on earth is Major doing with this lot? Not so long ago they were regarded as the lunatic frings — they thought up the poll tax and still defend it. What were they up to in the week before the Tory conference — writing his speech? If Blair had given a reception for the research department of the Democratic Left, he would have been slaughtered by the Daily

Bernard Keeffe. 153 Honor Oak Road, London SE23 3RN.

HAVE lobbied my MP at the House of Commons on two turnover in excess of 13m a year doing the same thing. If the aim is not to influence MPs then what is it? Will you please explain the role of a po-litical lobbyist, and how they can command such a large

turnover. S H Keeling. Alton Cottage. Idridgehay, Belper,

A miscarriage of justice or why the Allwood case is a one-off

restrictions on who can benefit from the new reproductive technologies (Pause, think again, October 4). The Mandy Allwood case is not evidence that we need a legal or professional review of circumception techniques can be used. Nor is the recent case where a woman chose to have her twin pregnancy reduced to a singleton avidence of the need for a review of abortion law. Such cases attract media outrage precisely because they are extremely rare. If there were evidence that

women were needlessly pre-scribed drugs to stimulate their ovaries, or if the number of women choosing to attempt to give birth to octuniets was large enough to be considered a public health problem, there might be an argument for reconsidering restrictions on the use of fertility drugs. But Ms Allwood's is an isolated, sad and unusual case which is hardly likely to provoke a

copy-cat response.

There is a serious danger that if legislation, public policy and professional guide-lines are formulated in reac-

ONGRATULATIONS to tion to the rarest cases, it will be to the detriment of those the clamour for more legal with a legitimate need for treatment. Hard cases do, indeed, make bad law.

instead of worrying how to prevent future Mandy Allwoods by further restricting the new reproductive technol ogies, it would be better for those who influence policy to consider how to make techniques more easily avail-able to those who need them. Ann Furedi.

Birth Control Trust, 16 Mortimer Street. London WIN 7RD.

As MANDY Allwood was Annly 20 weeks pregnant, she actually suffered an abortion, ie the medical term for the ending of pregnancy before the 24th week pregnancy. Stillbirth can only happen after the 34th week.

It would be very ironic if this case highlighted the pain. shock and grief that late miscarriage causes to women and their pariners, and lead to im-provement in their care in hospital and an improved awareness in society.

Jane Stanford-Beale.

Oakley Road, Caversham Heights RG4.

A Country Diary

carried it out in a couple of uously to the surface at the dustbin bags it felt like fish, end of Williamson's Tarka the and even when it was revealed in all its frozen glory it suggested something of the streamlined power of a prize salmon. It was, however, a male otter, four feet long, over 201b in weight and tragically killed while still in its prime. Except for a little splintering of the teeth and drops of crystallised blood on the mouth there was little to indicate that it had been a road casualty. In fact, had it not been for a permanent twist in the frozen tail and a slight flattening of the face, where it had been depressed in the freezer, there was little to distort the perfect symme try of its form. Even as a corpse it brought to mind those magically fluid line drawings by Michael Ayrton, which appear in Gavin Max-well's masterpiece Ring of Bright Water. I was also reminded of one of the most poignant moments in my

childhood reading - when

THURNE, NORFOLK: As I | those air bubbles rise ambig-Otter. Although these classics help explain Britain's love af-fair with otters, I suspect they are not the only reason. Curiously, I find confirmation for this idea in the identity of the animal that has come largely to supplant the otter as Britain's totem mammal — the dolphin. It is surely more than coincidence that these two have a number of fea tures in common. Particularly strong is their shared sense of fun. Otters are famous for dropping and retriev-ing pebbles or repeatedly sliding down mud chutes into water. It is as if they derive a self-conscious joy from simply being alive. But even that otters, like dolphins, live in water. Is it not their exquisite mastery of this primal medium, from which all life emerged, that explains our deep nostalgic affection for them?

MARK COCKER

MODERN bollocks-speak (Letters, October 1, 2, 3 and 4) is even rearing its unprepossessing head in interuniversity communications. A few months ago, one of my colleagues showed me a memorandum setting out his examination duties. It started with the following message "I enclose your personal invi-gilation package for the cur-rent session."

Broomhurst Hall. 836 Wilmslow Road Manchester M20 8RP.

IT is both gratifying and mystifying to this student of nautical history that such interest has been aroused by the revival of a term given to the pair of pulley blocks fitted to the middle of topsail yards in large sailing ships, that is, bollocks. Owain T P Roberts. Penralli Penrhyd Ynys Mon, Wales.



Kiss of death for loved ones

FIND the Resuscitation grieving relative wishes to Council's guidelines allow hold this event as their last ing relatives to be present at a resuscitation attempt worrying (Families 'should see fight for life', October 2). Having once allowed a spouse to be present at the attempted resuscitation of his wife, I would never again wish to place an individual or a resuscitation team in this position. Attempted resuscitations are undignified and can seem degrading to an outsider. The outcome in the vast majority of cases is failure. I We may edit letters; shorter find it hard to believe that a ones are more likely to appear.

and could unnecessarily prolong attempts at resuscita-tion, both of which occurred in the incident I was involved

memory of their loved one.

(Dr) Ashwin Verma. Pyecombe Corner, London N12.

Why I was passed over at the ITN party

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

O NOT believe all that you read in even the best of our daily papers. Take, for example, last week's Guardian. On four consecutive days it published stories about the security arrangements at this year's Labour Party conference. Their cumulative effect was the impression that the rules might have been de-vised by Monty Python and implemented by the Marx Brothers. The idea which they planted in readers' minds was a woefully dis-torted picture of what really happened. Take it from me. Blackpool security was far more bizarre than the Guardian anecdotes revealed.

On Tuesday evening (being a gentleman, as well as a politician, of the old school) I changed before taking my staff to dinner - not, you understand, into white tie

invented to prevent infiltra-tors interfering with democratic proceedings, not free loaders gatecrashing parties. So, when we arrived at the Imperial Hotel, although my colleagues had their passes, did not have mine. Naively. thought that all I needed to get into the ITN party was the ITN invitation. The policeman on the gate

was also a member of the old school. He saluted me in a Dixon of Dock Green manner and said: "Good evening, Mr Hattersley." He then refused to let me in. After much conversation of the "it's more than my job's worth", variety, an inspector arrived. showed him five items of identification, including my House of Commons pass. Each of them bore my photograph. I would have exhibited my NUJ card, but I feared that the inspector might be

New Labour. The extensive documenta

in the Winter Gardens. It is asked for more details. "By pass and move it from one lapel to the other. Passes were in the Labour Party, you mean lapel to the other. Passes were in the Labour Party, you mean lapel to the other. Passes were in the Labour Party officials insisted in the labour ..?" My only hope was to identify an official to whom I might appeal. But the inspector looked at me with the bewilderment of a man who had been asked to provide an ideological definition of the point at which Socialism and social

democracy overlap. Believing that he had a lunatic on his hands, he telephoned "Control". While I waited for their response, Tony Blair swept past in his scarlet Rover and gave me a friendly wave. I realise now that I should have thumbed a lift through the barrier. The first man to arrive from

"Control" was an Evening Standard photographer. I smiled benignly at the inspec tor and even thought of butting a friendly arm around his shoulder. But, fearing arrest for assault, I grinned-on and contemplated the next day's pictures. I had begun to realise that, whatever I did or said, the post-structuralists of the tabloid press would inter-pret my sub-text as "Officer, I

the arrival of two Labour Party officials — one very senior and both very helpful. We all began, with the exception of the inspector, to apologise to each other. They offered to hire a taxi, take me to the Conference Centre, have my photograph taken and arrange for a new pass to be

Tony Blair swept past in his scarlet Rover, I realise now I should have

thumbed a lift made. Logic began to do its dangerous work again. If I was entitled to a pass was it totally impossible for me to exercise

the rights of a pass-holder and have a drink with Michael Brunson and Eleanor Goodman? It was. My old pass was two miles away in my hotel. hope you realise that I am a One of my colleagues went to Privy Councillor and the get it. The younger of the

goes wrong". His courtesy seemed to be a comment on my age. So to prove him wrong I levered myself onto the five-foot wall which surrounded the forbidden territory and sat there until I could endure the references to Humpty Dumpty no longer. When my pass arrived, the helpful young official said that, morally speaking, I had stood in the queue for half an hour. He would, therefore, take me round the back so that I might make a speedy entrance to the two, vast prefabricated huts which had been erected in the Imperial forecourt. Even people with passes had to subject them-selves to metal detectors.

By the time that he had convinced the inspector that he was entitled to use the back door, people who had taken their places in the queue long after we had attempted the short cut, had completed their screening. When the metal de-tector screamed, its attendant did not laugh at my joke about the plate in my head. Then, when the offending steel ob-

tually we found a paper clip in my jacket lining. Only the explosives search stood between

me and a drink. Before it got within six inches of my hand, the semtex-sensitive apparatus began to buzz and shudder. Thank God, I thought, that they decided not to hire sniffer dogs. The operator crossed my palms twice more. After the third examination she was satisfied that I did not intend to blow up the whole of Blackpool. So she asked me, ever so politely, for my autograph.

I did not stay long at the party; I did, however, have time to speak to my old friend Chris Price, and agree that 40 years ago, Labour conferences were more exciting than they are today. Then we hoped to meet people like us. Now we know how boring people like us are. As I walked off into the bracing Blackpool night I wondered why security arrangements had been so strict. I could only think of one possible reason. The shadow cabi-

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The state of the s

Suzanne Goldenberg

ARELY has such a lowly insect been greeted with anything other than a hard slap. But at a health exhibition this weekend, people crowded around a net cage filled with dozens of buzzing tiger-striped Aedes mosquitos, tiny killers responsible for an epidemic that is panicking well-to-do areas of Delhi normally believed insulated against pestilence and disease. The Aedes mosquito is a day predator, unlike its better-known malaria-bearing cousin (displayed in an adjacent

The smaller variety carries dengue fever, a virus which can lead to death. Within the last month. more than 1,100 people in the capital have caught den-gue fever, and nearly 70 have died — mainly children. Dengue has been around, relatively unnoticed for years, but the cur-rent cases officially make this latest manifestation an

enclosure for comparison).

The large-scale return of the disease, after its last vis-itation four years ago, owes much to urbanisation and a relative rise in prosper-ity. The mosquito breeds in cities, and in relatively clean waters. It prefers the hole in the ground which is waiting for the next tower block to be built or dark confines of desert coolers, which are a local, affordable, answer to air conditioning.

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As India's cities grow, and as more people invest in coolers, the disease will spread, says Dr K K Datta, the director of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases. "If you walk into any house today you find a cooler. Even servants'

houses have them."
Most of those who have fallen ill come from Delhi's better-off neighbourhoods, because they can afford coolers and are knowledge ble enough to go to hospital where their cases can be registered. Alarmingly for the middle classes, the epidemic has bit them directly. Among those infected are doctors and nurses at Delhi's best teaching bospital, and employees at a university campus a few miles away.

Local newspapers have fed off those afflicted just as the mosquitos did. The Times of India runs a daily Viral Spiral column, and all the papers have carried useful information on symptoms and treatment. But they have also succumbed to hysteria, revelling in the daily death toll and shortages at blood banks due to the rush for transfusions.

In some ways, the panic is reminiscent of the outbreak of the plague two years ago. Although doctors now doubt that disease crept northwards from its origins in western India, Delhi-ites took no chances, wearing surgical masks and rolling the windows of their air-conditioned cars to the top.

Contrast this with the relative silence on far more rempent killers: diarrhoeal diseases which claim one million children a year, and tuberculosis, which kills 500,000 annually after lifetimes of suffering. Although malaria kills

fewer people than its emerging competitor, there are 105 million new cases a year, and it is spreading more rapidly. In many parts of India, infant mortality is rising. Except for air pollu-tion, blamed for the deaths of 7,500 people from respira tory ailments in New Delhi alone, most of these diseases strike in rural areas, where doctors are less readily available, even if

people are educated enough to seek help.

Some argue that dengue owes its media cachet to complacency about diseases that now prey on the poor. Millions of people still succumb to ancient scourges because of malnutrition, lack of clean drink-ing water, and restricted access to medical care. The rich can buy protection at private hospitals.

But, as during the season of the plague, the dengue fever epidemic has highlighted the collapse of ur-ban sanitation and public health systems. The present budget allots just 1.4 per cent of government spend-ing to health.

Now the boundaries are

breaking down, and even the wealthy are vulnerable. "A mosquito does not respect a rich man or a poor man," Dr Datta says. "Those who are dying are those not expected to die."



Why the Vatican is now an open city

Commentary John Hooper

MONG the Vatican's many taboos, one of the strictest is against public discussion of the Papal succession. You will never get a member of the Curia (the Vatican ad-ministration) to talk openly about it. Any broadcast or print medium which gazes in the crystal ball to see who might be the next Pope can expect to pay a price. Its cor-respondent in Rome will discover open doors suddenly slamming shut.

This is understandable. Before there is a succession, there has to be a death. And there is something distasteful about speculating on events stemming from a death. Yet speculation about how long the Pope will live and what happens after he dies is going to be rife in the next few days. Last night, he was due to check into the Gemelli Hospital in Rome for what Vatican spokesmen insist is a minor

past few months almost everything to do with the pon-tiff's health has been confused. Anyone who watched yesterday's television pictures from St Peter's Square will have seen that his left hand was shaking uncontrollably. It has been doing this increasingly noticeably. Many people believe that he has Parkinson's Disease. On a recent visit to Hungary, his spokesman was quoted by some correspondents as con-

firming this, obliquely. But the idea has since been de-nied emphatically.

Three times in the past year, Pope John Paul has been suddenly indisposed most dramatically, last Christmas, when had to cut short his greetings to the crowd in the Square and to a minor rural hospital on the eve of a holiday for tests that the Vatican then dis-missed as routine. It was subthere had indeed been a mys-tery surrounding his health, but that the tests had shown that all he had was an un-

Few accept that explana-

John Gray believes that the Tory party has no

choice but to continue with its negative campaign

healthy appendix.

grumbling appendix. In the | worth asking why the world shows such a fascination with the Pope's well-being. It is obviously a matter of concern to Roman Catholics. But what about everybody else?

The customary explana-tions are inadequate. The one most often cited is that the pontiff has immense power as spiritual leader of the world's "one billion Roman Catho-lics". There may not, in fact, be a billion practising believers — that is the Vatican's estimate of the number of people who have been bap-tised as Roman Catholics — but the Pope's views, particu-larly on birth control, clearly influence the future of the world. However, they condi-tion rather than determine it. Recent studies of population growth have shown millions of Roman Catholics are stepped off the balcony of his private apartment. There has been talk of fever, of colds, of influenza. In August, he was discovered by a Rome newshaper to have been whisked still low in the world league table is Smain. And there is

table, is Spain. And there is evidence of a sharp fall begin-ning in Latin America. Factors probably connected with greater prosperity and more education have had far more of an impact on the behaviour of men and women baptised as Roman Catholics than the pronouncements of the man they acknowledge to operation — the removal of a tion. Even if you do, it is be St Peter's successor.

It can also be argued that since the papacy is both an absolute monarchy and a job for life, the health of the current incumbent will be ex-tremely important. It is true that the papacy is an absolute monarchy, but the pontificate is not necessarily a job for life. Popes can resign.

UTY 100150

Other factors have done much more to concentrate such attention on the medical condition of Karol Woltyla. One is the nature of the man, and the other the nature of his papacy. He took his job when he was in vigorous form. He is the Pope who had once been a manual worker, who seemed immune to jet lag and long hours, the Pope who strode up mountains and had a swimming pool built at his country mansion. Yet he has been reduced by age, overwork and a mysterious assassin's bullet to someone who, though only in his mid-seven-

John Paul now often looks, moves and sounds a much older man than he really is

ties, now often looks, moves This man has a peculiar and suffering. He escaped as-sassination by centimetres and, like many who have done so, appears to discern divine intention in his sur-vival. He has declared his determination to live until the year 2000 and, as Marco Po-liti, Vatican-watcher for the newspaper La Repubblica, remarked yesterday: "John Paul II has already made it resigning. As a genuine mys- | G2, page 4

suffering as a privileged means by which to partici-pate in the suffering of Christ. You cannot resign from the

sufferings of the Cross."

Mystic though he undoubtedly is, Karol Wojtyla has done more than any Pope to exploit the opportunities offered by modern technology. He has travelled more exten sively than any of his prede cessors and projected himself into all our lives. He is an international celebrity. He is an instantly recognisable face. He is a global personality, whose well-being is every

body's concern. The process began before he took the throne of St Peter and can be traced back as far as John XXIII. But with the accession of John Paul II, the papacy took a decision not unlike that which the British monarchy had taken a few years earlier — to open itself up to media exposure. Having had the benefits of

that decision, the papacy again not unlike the British royal family, is now finding out about the drawbacks.
There is a saying in the
Curia, which acts as the central administration of the Roman Catholic church, that "a Pope is never ill until he is dead" in the days when pon-tiffs did not stray much be-yond the walls of the Vatican. it was possible to maintain that fiction. The Pope was perhaps known to be poorly. His infrequent public appearances became even more infrequent. Then, one day, usu-ally some time after the event, the fateful announcement was made. But no such discretion is possible when the pontiff can be captured by cameras in close-up and the minutest tremblings in his voice register on microphones.

clear he has no intention of The problem with John Paul,

pect. Many financial institutions, together with much of British industry, have con-cluded that no coherent Euro-pean policy can be hoped for from the Tory government. The European issue will be as dangerous for the Tories over the coming months as industrial relations were for Labour in the run-up to the elections in 1979. It is best left alone — if that can still be managed until after the election.

OCUSING on the differences in domestic policy is hardly less risky. Committing the party to privatising air traffic control and the Post Office may delight the rightwing think-tanks, but it also suggests to voters that Conserva-tive policy-making is in the bands of cranks. Savaging what is left of the welfare state is no more promising. Unfortunately, from the standpoint of the New Right ideology that has displaced One Nation Toryism in the Conservative Party — much of the electorate exhibits an atavistic attachment to social cohesion. It will not trust the Tories with and sexism is perfectly legal. When the appeals tribunal has may think some reforms are found the hotel responsible necessary and desirable.

Among the Conservatives

there are many who now wel-come defeat. For the Tory right it is indispensable. Its strategy is to make Euro-scepticism at present the chief cause of Tory disunity, the Conservative Party's central political asset after the elec-tion has been lost. If Labour in power is torn apart by EMU, then the roles of the two par-ties will have been reversed. A premature decision to enter a potentially unstable single European currency could return Labour to opposition for a generation. That is a prospect for which tomorrow's Tory nationalists would

HE disclosures sur-rounding Neil Ham-liton MP may have finally put paid to the disclosures for that, after 17 years of Conser-vative rule, the barriers be-tween the institutions of the finally put paid to the disclosures sur-tween the institutions of the finally put paid to the party conference's fringe past century. By removing its the party conference's fringe meetings. Making Europe a bet the farm.

None of this contains any comfort for Dr Mawhinney.

He is stuck with the job of demonising Labour and Tony Blair. Labour must prepare itself for a Tory campaign of exceptional ugliness. By now such an entirely negative cam-paign, however ruthlessly pro-moted, has scarcely any chance of working. For the Conservative leadership, however, no other option remains.

A message of cynicism and negation is the only one that the Tories have for Britain.

Peterloo massacre in 1819. "The torrent of indignation," he wrote, "has not yet done boiling in my veins." I got a terrible attack of BBIV (blood boiling in veins) last Wednesday while listen-ing to BBC Radio 4's Midweek. Star of the show was

Freda Burton, a black wait-ress from Derby, who, with the support of the Commis-sion of Racial Equality, had just won an important case at the employment appeals ribunal.

I like my coroa," didn't get a big enough laugh, so Manning capped it with: "Darkies are great at blow-jobs." This brought the house down.

thinks that racist "jokes" asked Sonia what a black woman's vagina tasted like.

The dark nights of the **Round Table**



Paul Foot

SUFFER from BBIV syndrome. It was first identified in a letter written by Shelley after he learned of the

She and her mate Sonia Rhule, who is also black, were hired by the Pennine Hotel, Derby, to serve at a large dinner thrown by the Derby Round Table. The after-din-ner speaker was Bernard Manning. As the two wait-resses cleared the tables. Manning pointed them out and showered them with his speciality: racist and sexist buse. "Very nice. That's how

Libby Purves. Midweek's presenter, said she had heard the tape and the rest of Manning's repertoire was far too nauseating to broadcast. For the benefit of anyone who still never did anyone any harm, Freda recounted what happened next. One of the guests Freda was seized by another black-tied worthy who supple mented his fondling with foul mouthed innuendo

The women fled and the following day made a dignified protest to the hotel. "Racism," they concluded, "is an issue which we feel strongly about. To be degraded 3) because we are women and b) because we are black is unfor givable." It is also detestable, disgraceful, disgusting. Who could be held respon-

sible in law? Not Manning or the Round Table - since this was a "private function" where any amount of racism for not protecting its staff, and the De Vere hotel group will have to fork out damages. The other good news is that the Pennine Hotel has banned Round Table functions from

spokesman tells me it was spokesidan tens me n was formed in 1927 "to encourage fellowship among young men and to help other people". Did this include racially and sexually abusing women? No, the spokesman said. The National Association of Round Tables which "is not a racist organi sation and does a hell of a lot of good," had "regretted" what happened at Derby. Had the Association at least

recommended that Manning should never again be invited to Round Table functions? The spokesman did not know. He said he would send me a copy of a letter about the matter by the national president to all the Round Tables but he didn't. He also said that if he'd heard the Man-ning smut, he would have walked out. It had never oc-curred to him that this sort of abuse will only be stopped when it is openly challenged. Until the Round Table makes it clear that racism, sexism and Bernard Manning will be outlawed from their functions, I will go on regarding them as a bunch of bour-geois greedles whose main function is to stuff their stomachs and congratulate themselves on their charitable works and social superiority.

ITH each new glori-ous revelation about the Greer/Hamilton affair, I take a trip down memory lane to the packed town hall in Wakefield in 1972 where I reported the bankruptcy proceedings of York-shire architect John Poulson. The barrister for the trustee in bankruptcy, Muir Hunter QC, referred tantalisingly to the "parliamentary file" — which apparently revealed a wide range of Poulson's pay-ments, gifts and freebies to

MPs who had helped him. An embarrassed House of Commons dealt with all this by accepting the resignation of one MP, reprimanding an-other and exculpating another (the former Home Secretary). One reason for this mild response was that Poulson's favours were evenly dis-tributed between the two main parties, so no one

wanted to kick up a fuss.

Today, most recipients of such perks are Tories. None of this excuses the exceptions. It was shocking to hear Chris Smith, Doug Hoyle etc try to pass off the Greer payments to their constituencies as harmless. Greer is not a Labour supporter. He sprays constituencies with money for one reason only: because he hopes the payments one day will assist his company or his clients.

THOUGHT for the Day. Incomes Data Services report that in the first three months of this year the average gain made by directors of companies who "exercised" their share options (at the expense of two phone calls by their its premises forever.

What about the Round
Table, which has 1.100 clubs
all over the country? A secretaries) was £140,000.
This represents, on average, 10 years' hard work by the workers in their companies.

The differences between the Conservatives and Labour today are real and deep. The most serious of them, however, are presently too risky to 4,000 in the FTSE 100 share index was a warning signal for the Tories. It tells us that the City has already discounted a Labour victory—and is unfazed by the prosbecome mistrustful of the en-tire political class. That may well be true. But the way the Hamilton affair has been why he adopted the campaign of demonising the Labour leader. One of the results of handled will confirm voters' worst suspicions. It tells them that leadership has been to be used by the Tories against Wanted: ideas the politicians won't propose

traditional enemy, Blair has stripped the Tory party of much of its identity. It is bad

enough not knowing, after nearly two decades in power,

what you are for. It is even

worse if you can no longer be sure what you are against. What then is Dr Mawhinney to do?

Larry Elliott opens our new free access zone with a demand for a carbon tax

MANIFESTO

finally put paid to the strategy of the

trusted with power.

The government of John vincible. They fear another

Major cannot avoid being term of Tory rule. This fact

deeply tainted by what has alone must put in consider-been revealed. It is no good it saying that the electorate has become mistrustful of the en-

Tory party chairman, Dr Brian Mawhinney, of warning voters that Labour can't be

ABOUR'S conference last week was a wonder to behold. It was packaged, stage-managed, choreographed beautifully. This week the circus moves to Bournemouth, where the Conservatives will try to turn the same trick.

The public are rightly suspicious of this process which is fast becoming the epitome of style over content. Parties insist on keep ing to their tightly-defined agendas, which in some of the key areas are virtually indistinguishable.

Politics should not be a policy-free zone; but some issues are simply not

spoken about. Monetary union is off-limits, as is the legalisation of cannabis, the reduction of the age of consent, widening the range of goods and services covered by VAT, privatisation of education and wel-fare, the future of the public schools and countless other

and the ruling party of the day, on which our freedoms depend, have crumbled. Voters' mistrust of Conser-

has been staked. We all know

Down and dirty

awkward subjects. This column is designed to help. In the months up to the election, the Guardian will be offering politicians and voters alternative ideas. Week by week, we will be seeking to widen the debate by presenting the

innovative, the constructive and the ingenious ideas that the mainstream political parties prefer to ignore. We invite any group or individual to offer suggestions _bigorsmall —for inclusion in Another Manifesto. Provided that they are not

illogical, illegal or insane then they will all be considered. As polling day ap-proaches, a panel of outside experts will judge which ideas most deserve to be taken up by our political masters and put to the One idea is the introduc-

tion of a carbon tax, which is highly unlikely to feature in either the Conservative or Labour manifestos. Environmentalists say that a carbon tax makes ecological sense because it cuts down on the carbon dioxide emissions that are causing global warming. They argue that it is absurd to tax things we want more of jobs - while at the same time leaving untouched a

pollution. Revenue raised from the levy could be used to cut

thing we want less of:

National Insurance contributions for employers, mak-ing it cheaper to hire staff. Or it could be a way for the Conservatives to reduce income tax or for Gordon Brown to cut the starting rate of tax to 10p in the

campaign issue against Labour risks taking the split

between rightwing national-

ists and Tory pragmatists — a beleaguered and and dwin-

dling band, but a force to be reckoned with as long as Ken-

— to breaking point. Last week's rise to over

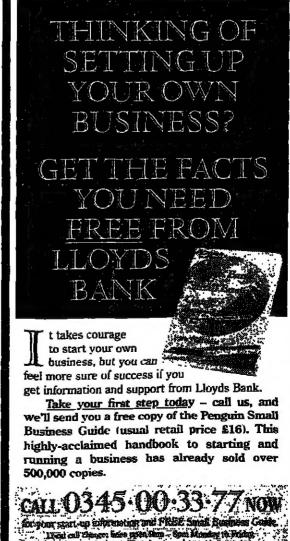
pound. And tougher taxes on pollution would encour age the development of alternative energy sources and force UK industry to come up with cleaner technologies. Germany, Japan and Scandinavia are well ahead of Britain when it comes to firms selling antipollution devices. This is one of the fastest-growing and most lucrative areas of the global economy.

Opponents argue that a carbon tax would force up prices and hit the poorest hardest, because they spend a higher proportion of their limited incomes on fuel and letters@guardian.co.uk)

power than do the rich. Labour believes efforts should be concentrated on saving energy rather than on a new tax. Industry is also sceptical. The Confedsays that a carbon tax would push up costs, leading to lower growth and higher

unemployment.
So what do you think? Would such a tax be a sensible start to a recasting of the taxation system — or a middle-class hobby horse that would hurt the poor and put jobs at risk? Do you, or your organisation, have any better ideas? It is over to you.

Please send brief proposals and responses to: Another Manifesto, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER (fax: 0171 837 4530; E-mail:



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THE THOROUGHBRED BANK

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Martyn Harris

ciless criticism and tender

scorn that he could turn on

other people. He never did

himself any favours, never stood on his own dignity. In-stead, he put himself on the

line, for his readers and for his friends, mocked his own

intimate mistakes and

ful and dishy, witty and

unprotected. raw to his life

and to his death. And he faced

dying with the same vivid

fear and unshrinking courage

He was born in Swanse

the son of a greengrocer-father

and a teacher-mother, who both survive him. He went to

Swansea's Bishop Gore Gram-

mar School, where he was unswottishly clever. Although he left Swansea for Kent Uni-

with the same person over and

again, he never became com-

placent. He found the work

hard and sometimes frustrat-

ing, and he would race against

its restraints. There were

many times when he wanted

to give up journalism and ded-

icate himself to writing

Again and The Mother-in-Law

Joke — were both reviewed as

"comic novels" and yet,

bawdy and funny as they are,

they are also anatomies of

guilt, autobiographies not in

their profane plots but in their

self-mocking self-laceration. For he was a difficult man:

bolshie, prickly, reckless and full of doubts. He was also

clear-sighted. big-hearted, kind. He was sometimes rude

Jenny Abramsky, control-ler, BBC Radio 5 Live, 50;

Christopher Booker, jour-

nalist and author, 59; Joseph

Cooper, pianist and broad-caster, 84; Clive James, critic and broadcaster, 57;

Thomas Keneally, novelist,

61; Pamela Mallinson, secre-

tary, Foresty Commission, 42; Yaitah Menuhin, pianist, 75;

Maj-Gen Julian Thompson, Falklands war commander,

62; Jayne Torvill, ice skater.

39; The Most Rev Desmond Tutu. Archbishop of Cape

Town, 65.

Birthdays

with which he faced living.

terrors. For a man so succ

Laughing in

the face of fear

Trials of intellect

cial lawyers, who, while he intermittently stepped aside to perform public service in a judicial heights that betitted his intellectual talents. In the public mind, his name is tee on Fraud Trials which, in 1986, recommended the replacement of trial by jury judge and two expert lay members. Although the tour de furce. Roskill was much less at recommendation has never been acted upon, recent crimhome in the criminal court. mendation back on the politi-

a quartet of brothers, sons of John Roskill KC and Sybil (a niece of Sir Charles Dilke MP), who all won distinction in public life. His eldest brother, Ashton, was also a distinguished commertace had some titanic battles in the courtroom before Ashchairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. ter to Exeter College, Oxford, where he gained a first in record that was constantly seen to be in play, in forming and punctuating many of his judgments, both on and off the Bench

Seymour Cray

things like weather forecast-

ing seismic analysis, and hi-

tech product development, but

of "spooks and nukes". The spooks used them for things

like creating and cracking

secret codes, while the nukes

used them to simulate H-bomb

explosions. Indeed, Cray told

Science magazine that the ability to test bombs on a

computer "seems to me to be

the vehicle that led to the Test

Cray's name first became

known outside the computer

industry when his company. Cray Research, shipped its

first Cray-1 supercomputer to

America's Los Alamos Scien-

tific Laboratory in 1976. But by then be had already spent

25 years designing high-speed

computers and, almost single-

handedly, creating an indus-

try. Larry Smarr, director of America's National Centre for

Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois.

said: "There wouldn't really

as we know it but for Seymour

And it happened by accident. In 1951, after graduating

from the University of Minne-sota, in Minneapolis, with a

engineering and a master's in

applied mathematics. Cray

was wondering what to do

next. "It was just a fortunate

coincidence that I ended up at

the beginning of computing,"

he said. One of his instructors

suggested he just go down the

Ban Treaty" in 1963.

ISTACE Roskill, | out the 1970s). As a trial judge sitting in the commercial court, he found his niche, exhibiting an astonishing ability to absorb a mass of evidential detail, promptly organising it, judgment of perfect symmetry. In an action in 1966. involving the ostensible or apparent authority of a company director, he delivered an offthe cuff judgment — beyond the "11th hour of the eve of the Christmas Vacation" - cover-(some 7,000 words), which the Court of Appeal dubbed as a

> His handling of the trial at the Old Bailey in the Mitcham ber 1962 came under heavy criticism in the Court of Criminal Appeal. Two of the three defendants found guilty by the jury succeeded on ap-peal. The court said of comments made by the trial judge about some defence evidence: To say that he was pouring scorn on an expert witness for the defence was scarcely put ting it too high. It was incum bent on the judge to deal with it fully and fairly." That was an aberration, out of charac ter and remains inexplicable But the incident, and a transfer to public duties, delayed

> Roskill performed two extra-judicial tasks before he went to the Court of Appeal in 1971. From 1968-70, he chaired select a third London airport from among 100 different sites Roskill recommended the

Prototype nerd who

ued to work in the same place

with the same people, when

ington Rand, and then by

street corners. CDC set up in a

warehouse at 501 Park Avenue, where Cray designed the

CDC1604 (1103+501=1604). It

There wouldn't

supercomputer

industry as we

know it but for him'

was the first supercomputer

built out of a new technology, transistors, instead of valves

own laboratory and a house on a woodland site near his child-

hood home in Chippewa Falls. Wisconsin. This enabled Cray

ers without the distractions of

company paperwork, meet-

ings. and visitors. Although Cray was always, as CDC's

David Lindstrom wrote.

average-looking man in any

group", this seclusion gave rise to various stories about

clean-shaven and the most

Wisely, CDC built Cray his

really be a

or vacuum tubes.

ERA was taken ov

computer, the Univac.

changed the world

has died aged 7L some ing cryptographic equipment weeks after a car for the US Navy in an old crash, is recognised as glider factory in St Paul, Min-

the Father of Supercomputing, neapolis. It gave Cray the and designed most of the chance to design his first comworld's fastest computers. puter, the 1103. Cray contin-

there was never any real pros-pect that it would be built -ostensibly on environmental Lustace's intellectual delight, became immersed in the new accounting techniques of costbenefit analysis which measure things with fair accuracy but measure political pressure not at all. It was a classic example of the folly of choos-ing a judge, unused to judging the politics of environmental and social issues

Prior to that inquiry, Roskill had been appointed as the first vice-chairman of the Parole Board, an innovation under the Criminal Justice Act 1967 to determine a pris-

It was his academic record that formed and punctuated many of his judgments

oner's date of release. The experience of reading reports from prison staff visibly made an impact on his approach to sentencing when he came to the Court of Appeal. Like all the later judicial members on the Parole Board, he responded readily to the plea by Home Secretary, until very recently, to use the scarce resource of imprisonment sparingly; and even when it was necessary to impose custody to pass a term of impris-

lington in Bedfordshire, but of time consistent with the In the Court of Appeal, Ros kill tended to deliver and more notable for their occasional literary allusions and historical recitation. His judgment in the Gay News case of 1978, involving the poem homosexual, was an exegesis on the law of blasphemy, copiously referenced to 18th and 19th century prosecutions. Any historian, legal or social can usefully turn to Roskill's udgment. He was only just short of his 70th birthday when he was elevated to the House of

Lords. Less than six years provided too little opportuhandful of notable judgments. but the law reports are dotted with judicial pronounce ments of some significance. In the famed GCHQ case in 1984. his speech repays a careful read. He recounted, with a nice historical perspective, the recent upsurge in judicial activism through the instru-ment of judicial review, he buried the hallowed phrase of "natural justice" in favour of tor's duty to act fairly; and he was insistent that evidence not mere assertion, must be forthcoming from government before the courts would allow claims to national security to preclude judicial in-vestigation of particular individual grievances of govern-

Judicially. Roskill was a conservative. While never



cial capacity. Outside the courtroom, his abiding professional love was for his liner Court. He was never happier than when he was dining in Middle Temple hall, with its magnificent hamme: beam roof and cak-panneled walls. He became the Inn's ued right up to the last days of his life to show a keen interest in the affairs of the Inn.

A haughty manner — exem-plified by the shape of his mouth, the tone of speech and the tilt of his head - could not conceal the warmth and friendliness towards his felchildren, with whom he es-tablished a remarkable rapport. This was no doubt the product of a highly successful marriage to Elisabeth Jack-son in 1947. She was a constant, endlessly cheerful source of comfort and support to Eustace, the ideal consor to an English barrister and judge in over 40 years of fruit-ful professional activity. She survives him with one son and two daughters.

Louis Blom-Coope

Eustace Wenworth Roskill (Baron Roskill of Newtown), law

George Reid

EORGE Reid, who has died in London aged 59, was the Dublinborn schoolkeeper of St Aloysious Boys' School in Highgate north London who with his wife Kitry probably bad the largest extended family in his own mini-tribal system who ate together weekly, he and Kitty managed to foster 234 boys and girls who were difficult to place. No one was ever turned away or asked to

At St Aloysious, energy flowed from his house, a tied cottage within the school grounds. Swimmers, boxers, sailors, musicians in the school found a practical enthusiast. Children gravitated to him, some brought in by desperate social workers from living along the railway lines in north London or from shattered homes. With George and Kitty, they were safe and secure. He was a miracle worker who UNICEF would have poached — the godfather and grandfather of

George Patrick Reid, school

ing for a computer magazine, sub-editing for Ceefax, editing an obscure and quickly ex-EORGE Reid, who has tinct journal called Office Systems. Then for several years he was a writer and columnist on New Society, where his dry wit and elegant prose caught the eye of the Daily Telegraph There, as a feature writer, columnist and interviewer, he was never slick and be was never sentimental. He hated bullshit and hypocrisy, he hated political correctness and cliché and duliness. He could interview politicians, actors, writers, and with the searchlight of his honesty see through their fame. Although he did dozens of interviews,

George was born into a poor Dublin family and when, at the age of six, he con-fronted the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Alfie Byrne, out canvassing he asked His Worship to get his mother a house. Byrne, captivated by the alert blond boy, obliged within a week. Like so many other Irish

people, he arrived in boom town Coventry in the late 1950s. He picked up the basic skills of a tool maker and quickly became a controller of a production line in a car factory. At £82 a week, the Reids were in clover. That was until George stopped the production line once too often for faulty work. Several of the women line workers told him the effect of this on their weekly wages. He left, refus-ing to be the cause of their shrinking wage packets.

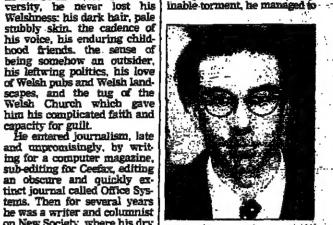
Highgate's Irish carers.

Oltyd Harrington

T THE beginning of | but he was never a bally, H his comic and darkly His met his first wife, Carry melancholy second Meeus, at university and the Joke, Martyn Harris

having two children. Sarah quotes Will Rogers: "Everything can be funny so long as it happens to somebody else." But for Martyn — one of the best and most truthful jourthe capacity for intimacy. She was unconditional and unsubdied of lymphoma, aged 43 — this was an ironic statement, for he was his own best and servient. She delighted him. and she sustained him during the cancer years. They had a Martyn was always scared same sardonic humour, mer-

of dying. He was of the Larkin school, haunted all his life by easily come to terms with can-cer, and yet he made dying his last and greatest subject, his final gift to his readers. He stood face to face with death and did not flinch, but treated ir with hoots of bitter laughter and moments of luminous he wrote a breathtakingly honest feature about his terror, his hope, his greed for he wrote one of his best piece his way back to a faith in God that he had lost as a rebellious written from hospital when he was having a bone marrow



be witty, light-hearted, inforself-pity. The last time I saw Martyn.

we agreed to both learn by Memory of WB Years. Martyn already knew the beginning ("He disappeared in the dead the end ('In the deserts of the heart/Let the healing fountain start/in the prison of his days/Teach the free man how to praise"). Mind you, he beat all of us to The End, leaving a gap that will not be filled.

He hated dreariness, snotbery, hypocrisy, mindless manners, bad prose, strick women, beautiful views, beer with the lads, books. He adored his children and his wife. He could cook a fine risotto, decorate a room like a pro, write sentences that George Orwell might have es vied. He was angry, genero sweet. He had a great giggle. He was unforgettable.

Moci Gerrard

Martyn Harris, journalist, born

Death Notices

ULLETEIN - Peacefully in hospiter on Oct etc. Bety, o'w Bobby. Widow of Lappoid Funeral Service at Golders Green Create-

In Memoriam

undesirable, Paint, finials;

of contents and one should.

embellishments. The judi-cious application of runes is

Q: What can I put in my shed?

A: The key to this is useless-

ness. If there is a possibility that the item could have a

future use, it should not be

consigned to the shed, the

shelter of which must only be

offered to the shoddy, worth-

ess, rejected and unusable

items in your possession. May you be blessed with an

exundation of shedding

Hope this faquette helps,

fretwork and the like are to be

included in the nomenclature

never consider using them as

Birthdays

To place your ennouncement telephone 0171 713 4567 Fax 0171 712 4129.

Jackdaw



Little Hitler

AND who's this little fellow in his itty-bitty robe? That's tiny baby Adolf, the Hitlers' little boy! Will he grow up to be a Or a tenor in Vienna's

Opera House? Whose teensy hand is this, whose little ear and eye and Whose tummy full of milk,

we just don't know; printer's, doctor's, merchant's, priest's? Where will those tootsywootsies finally wander? To a carden, to a school, to

Maybe to the Burger-

meister's daughter? An example of the Nobel Prize for literature's winner, Wislawa Szymborska. The poem is called "Hitler's First Photograph" and is taken from the collection, "The People on the Bridge", 1986.

Perfect partner THE Virtual Girlfriend and

Virtual Boyfriend are artificial intelligence programs for your IBM PC or compatible and also for Macintosh. You can watch them, talk to them, ask them questions, tell them secrets, and relate with them. Watch them as you ask them to take off different clothes and guide them through many different activities. Watch and participate in the hottest sexual activities available on computer. including: several sexual positions, using many unique toys, even bringing in

multiple partners. This is no doubt one of the most realistic, sexually stimulating computer games available. They will remem ber your name, birthday, your likes and your dislikes.

fired off an angry memo because he didn't like being Sperry, which produced the first commercial mainframe beaten by a company with only 34 employees ' However, in 1957, many the janitor". Cray repeated the process leading figures in the St Paul factory broke away and founded Control Data Comseveral times, founding new pany (CDC), raising some of the money by selling stock on

Cray came up with the CDC6600, and CDC quickly took over the scientific com-

grin of the almighty IBM.

i Tom Watson Jr

companies and building new supercomputers using the most advanced (and therefore the riskiest) technology available. In 1972, he left CDC to found Cray Research Inc with only 12 employees; in 1989, he founded Cray Computer in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and last year, he founded SRC Computers Inc. As he jokily told the Wall Street Journal "My life is a perfect example of

a circular career path." Cray Research was hugely successful, and sold more than 300 large supercomputers in 20 years. Cray Computer — where Cray was working with new gallium arsenide instead of silicon chips — ran into trouble and its only customer withdrew its order before the machine was finished. SRC, a start-up, was years from pro-

ducing a product.

But it may be that Cray's death signals the end of the supercomputer industry he founded. US-based manufac turers have been going down like ninepins, and Cray Research was itself recently taken over by Silicon Graphics Inc, a manufacturer of smaller technical computers called workstations. Partly, this is the result of the end of the cold war: the government-financed

Every time you start the pro-gram, they say different

things, and act differently.

Each time, they have a differ ent personality. With the

VGA digital graphics. The

tual Boyfriend software have

some of the hottest, sexiest

card, you can actually hear their voice as they talk to

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ware title that was designed

for both heterosexual and ho-mosexual people. I would like

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out before it is put on the mar

fifth of the actual price until I

can get back some informa-

tion on what people think of

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try and write back any com-

ments. If you are interested

copy, then you can read the mailing instructions below. It

Virtual Girlfriend and Vir-

tual Boyfriend are artificial

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graphics out there. And with

a Soundblaster or compatible



Cray and his last completed supercomputer, Cray-3, in 1994

longer prepared to spend tens of millions of dollars on the fastest possible computers, or wait years for them to be delivered. Partly, it is the result of microprocessors — the cheap chips used in personal com-puters and workstations — becoming more and more power ful. They may not be capable of the highest levels of performance required for scientific research, but they meet the more modest needs of the

mass market. For Cray, however, designing supercomputers was al-ways less of a commercial than a personal challenge. "I really love what I do," he said. Tve been well taken care of in my lifetime. God looks after me, so to speak, and so . . . as I view it, you can leave the

active. It would be just like if

you were talking to someone.

You can actually have simple conversations. Their atti-

tudes change with the differ-

ent things you say, so you can say things that will upset

them, and then say things

that will please them. The more you play/talk with

them, the more you learn

what they can do, and what

they like to do. It really is a

blast. With all these movies

reality, it's amazing to actu-

coming out about virtual

ally have a virtual reality

program like this for your

request, the program can

come with a password protec-

tion utility that only allows

the program to run when the

correct password is entered.

An advert circulating on the

Marshall. Maybe dating agen

cies will be no more, they will

simply design the perfect part-

ner and pop it in the post.

TAZ, he used to be so de-

pressed! In fact he was hum-

A dog's life

internet, found by Lindsay

own computer. At your

responsibilities for all of the peripheral aspects of life to

Cray was a "computer nerd" long before the term was inented, and little is known of his personal and family life, though he married and raised Chippewa Falls city engineer was also "a thing-oriented per son instead of human-oriented person". Cray said, and his mother provided whatever-social contact he had. He added: "I only ask the same of my wife now. Take me out on the town once in a while. But

Jack Schofield

signer, born September 28, 1925

body kept yelling at him. "No" this, and "No" that!

training and life has new

meaning. If there's a

simple solution.

Then he went through basic

not too often.

died September 12, 1996 all. He didn't even know what triumph of glistering clarity. Q: How do I know if a fireplug was for! And everyam a sheddy person

depressed, four-legged friend in your house, here's a 1. Get rid of the problem, not the dog, regardless of the age find shelter for these items, of your favourite pooch.

2. Insist on real love, praise you could be sheddy. and affection training by an experienced professional who

understands your dog's personality.
3. Remember the 11th commandment — never hit your dog. He'll love you for it. 4. Call us today for personal one-to-one, basic or advanced training.

There is no end to the humanis ing of creatures. The advert was spotted in the Los Ange les magazine.

Shedding light

THESE questions and their answers, should, with your assistance and input. provide an understanding of sheds which will be seen as a

A: If you are, you will know, If much of your life has been spent with the uneasy feeling that you are not quite like other people and if you are inclined to hoarding useles and broken items, coupled with an inexplicable urge to

Q: Several people have asked if a Nissen but is a shed.

LA magazine . . . pooch rules

A: Special conditions apply in this case. Slick, professionally built jobs: no. Tack-ups from materials at hand: yes. Q: What is a Mk V-c?

A: Well, only the most coveted of all sheds, that's all. Muir has one with provenance that implicates Kitchener in its construction. The Mk V-c is the archetypal shed with such features as: a knurled door handle for ease of operation when you have slime on your

hands; a very small window with pre-installed grime to reduce light ingress to a mini-mum; extra 4ins nails on the studs to improve hanging capacity; downwardly adjustable headroom to ensure that no owner shall be able to stand fully upright.

Q: Does a tree-house count? A: Only in as much as they can be seen as a precursor to true shedness and are generally the outward manifestation of a young lad's desire to eventually become fully

ensheded. Q: What exterior decoration might I undertake? A: None. Dilapidation is the hallmark of fine sheds. Decorative sedulousness is

pieasures

Maybe his name should be changed to Jeff Dribble. Dis covered by Dave Budd on the newsgroup uk.rec.sheds. Jackdaw wants jeweis. E-mail

jackdawa guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

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中國名詞語

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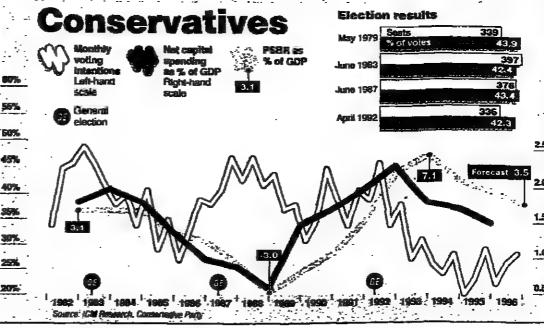
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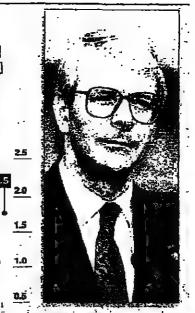
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Monaday October









ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/Same old Tories, the same old stagnation and drift

UPY100190

Local power rates little with this lot

SARAH RYLE sees a paradox behind the promises of decentralisation

NE OF the key Conservative promises has been to keen central government's role to a minimum. So it is ironic that the party of de-centralisation should have done so much to centralise functions and finance which were once run by local au-

"There has been no more crucial period for local gov-ernment in its history," said Robin Went, secretary of the Association of County Coun-

"Many people in local gov-ernment feel that it has been part of Conservative ideology to remove their power. "There is a feeling that the objective criteria. Conservatives could not ac-

cept that bodies with such

power might have a different view from the Govern-The most vital blow has been the reduction of locallythan 50 per cent of budgets to | the transfer of functions such

began in the early 1980s when the government restricted the spending of a handful of au-thorities, the precursor to more widespread although still selective capping which in turn gave way to universal

capping.
"Whereas when the Tories came to power, local authorities could decide for themselves the size of the cake and how it should be cut, now they can only decide how to cut the cake they are given," Mr Went said.

Central government effec tively decides how much council tax locally elected representatives should charge their communities be cause it sets the grant from Whitehall and determines the spending limit.

This has benefited some councils, most notoriously Westminster, which receive arge grants and therefore charge low council tax, and has worked to the detriment of others, despite supposedly

ENTRAL govern-ment now also deter-mines the business rate, once locally levled. The two other main as-pects of centralisation, as the local authorities see it, are

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now - over the phone. Naturally, that call won't

compared to the new BF basic rate.

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ernment and the enforced contracting out of first blue collar and then white collar ervices.

First the former polytechnics and then the sixth-form colleges were taken away from local authorities' remit, education and further educaroughly 20 per cent in Eng. as education to central gov. tion quangos which monitor

and fund individual governing bodies. Schools, too, can now opt out of local education authority control, receiving their funds direct from White-

Although the Conservatives argue that this has devolved power to governing bodies, councils argue that they had any case, and say that these

government since 1979 has been the provision of social services, Mr Went said. in the case of compulsory

competitive tendering, the Government and Conserva tive councillors argue that the criteria for contracts are t by local authorities and that competition provides the best value for money.

other way of reducing councils' remit while adding to their administrative burden.

ERHAPS the Conservatives' final attempt to alter the face of local government was total reorganisation with the purpose of replacing the county and district two-tier system with unitary authori

In Wales and Scotland, there was no consultation. Both now have unitary au-thorities. In England, there

hodies are no longer accountable to their local communities but to Westminster instead. was a rumbustious character unloved by the "ultras" in his own party. It would be no sur-prise if Mr Clarke were to be

The only significant respon-sibility handed over to local booed off the stage at the Conservative Party conference, just as Mr Healey was by his activists 20 years ago. Under Mr Callaghan, the

economy recovered from the sterling cri-

Party never did. The cope with not making things Many others view it as an-

pick-up in activity, but investment was weak and the curbs on living standards from incomes policy meant meant that the public mood remained sour. For John Major, departure from the ERM was the cata-lyst for growth, but the cost of bringing down the PSBR has

Larry Elliott

been stagnating real incomes. Investment has remained worryingly weak; crisis man-agement has meant there has been no time or energy to push forward with any sort of radical agenda. Voters can sense when a prevailing othodoxy has played itself out. Although Britain had both Labour and

hard, in truth, to distinguish between Harold Wilson's brand of big-government and that of Ted Heath. There was a rhythm to the cycle: a retreat from early high hopes, consolidation, a period of radical reform from In Place of Strife in 1969 to the

reorganisation of local government in 1974, then a profound shock followed by inexorable decline. By the Winter of Discontent, collectivism was displugged into the cultural shifts towards individualism.

to be reminded that the probems for Labour did not end in 1979. Within 18 months of Callaghan's defeat, the party had split, ensuring a generation out of office. A post-elec

with disgust.

is not only that Neil Hamilton

has been been on the take, but also that he cannot see that

his activities fill the public

Conservatives do not need

tion Conservative split into anti-European and pro-Euro-S POLLING day approached in 1979, Jim Callaghan knew pean wings looks likely, with Mr Clarke joining the panthe game was up for theon of great leaders the Conservatives never had. That is the bad news for the such a mood shift and such a hunger for change that he was powerless to resist. What povernment. The good news

s that much of the Thatcherwas true 17 years ago is again true now. A stench of rot and Major legacy will live on under a Blair administration. There will be only minor changes to trade union legis-The parallels between lation, no programme of re-Labour 17 years ago and the nationalisation and no at Tories today are uncanny. Then, as now, the Prime Minister was seen as a decent but ineffectual. Then, as now, the tempt to use the tax system to shift resources from rich to both the market and the Chancellor of the Exchequer middle classes.

Mrs Thatcher's political success was also built on the big increases in real incomes mjoyed by those in work dur

ing the 1980s. Other countries did it differently, ensuring that any gains were evenly spread, but in the UK the decoupling of

the pollsters — the C1s and C2s — explains why Mr Blair

will do nothing to upset

The downside of the grow-

agenda and increased welfare

demands has been that the

lower taxation have not been

met, despite North Sea oil,

privatisation and the deep ex-

penditure cuts in some areas,

have done no better. Whereas the share of UK's national in-

come accounted for by public

spending has risen by around

2.5 percentage points between

1979 and 1995, the EU average

has gone up by more than six

Tax receipts as a proportion

But Britain's competitors

notably housing.

Middle England.

People were once employed to

under any name servatives to suggest that Labour, despite its slim list of

spending commitments, will

struggle to do as well. Ministers point out that risng living standards have been accompanied by a clos-ing of the productivity gap beween Britain and the rest of the world, higher inward in-vestment, better marketing and the elevation of consumer

What ministers never talk about are the big policy fail-ures, of which there are three. First, there have been the horrific macro-economic cock-ups: deflation followed by runaway boom followed by deflation again, wiping out 25 per cent of the manufacturing base in the first recession, ury in the second.

Policy is now better balenced than it has been during the entire Tory begemony with monetary laxity offset by fiscal tightness. The problem politically is that the UK needs at least five more years of the same medicine.

Second for all the huffing and puffing, the big claims made in 1979 have proved groundless. There has been no change in the trend rate of growth - still 2.5 per cent a year - and the problems o under-investment in capital

have not been addressed. Of vaunted make things; they now help others trickia-down

effect there has been no sign. Finally, at the very heart

pound prompted an export-led | benefits from earnings under- | of the Thatcherite project was pick-up in activity, but invest- | pinned the drift to a more un- | the notion that free-market equal society.

The vast majority of the population is better off now than it was in 1979, even ment off the people's backs.

years have been skewed in favour of the better-off. The post-Black Wednesday dissat-ligaction of those dealing. the cost of free-market failure among those in the under-class ignored by the affluent victims of laissez-faire eco-nomics. The nanny state is ing divide between rich and alive and well, regulating policing, monitoring, snooping controlling.
When Conservatives say

poor - particularly when ac-companied by a tax-cutting they have changed the Zeitgeist it is true in only a limmore trouble in controlling ited sense in effect they have fiscal policy than they ever envisaged. The promises of lower public spending and set up what amounts to a na-tionwide counselling service to fill the gap where demand management and redistribu-tion used to be. People were once employed to make things; they are now em-ployed to help others cope with not making things

One speaker at a Labour fringe meeting last week said he was surprised that there were remarkably few debates in Blackpool about economics. He should not have been. Mrs Thatcher's triumph is that neither party now has any real desire to manage capitalism. Her great failure

was a concession. A commis sion was formed under Sir John Banham and the result is that of 39 county councils at the start of the process, 34 remain. Two-tier government Conservative administrations still covers 23 million people. It may be a measure of how dissatisfied with the Conserbetween 1964 and 1979 it was vatives' approach to local government the electorate has be come that the party now only controls one county council in England, Buckinghamshire. But Mr Went believes that it is more likely to be a reflec-tion of voters being influenced by national issues when they select local coun-"Within five years of a Labour government, it will probably start to swing the other way and after ten years If the trade unions were of GDP have remained just then perceived by floating about unchanged in the UK: then the political complexion of councils would almost certainly be transformed voters as the symbol of every—they have gone up by around giant bureaucracy that man-from what it is now," he said. thing that was wrong with five points in the EU as a ages everything else. UPSIDE DOWN AGAIN. Worm's eye Dan Atkinson

Dirty dancing with business wolves

play the lottery, turn-ing those zillion-to-one odds to your advantage. Select your lucky (ha, ha) numbers, but don't buy a ticket. Pray like mad your numbers aren't selected (they won't be) and have a £52 treat at the new year. Apply the same inverse-

satisfaction technique to the Tory Party conference. Yes, they've inflicted a lot over the years, but for every infliction there's

"local income tax" pro-posed by that nice Mr Kin-nock. The Lawson Boom did allow us to buy some pretty clothes; Mr Foot's £10 billion-odd 'reflation package" would have left us with the same hangover but a wardrobe full of

brown leather jackets and

And at least the Tories had the decent cowardice to pull out of the ERM in 1992; brave New Labour would still be in there, with interest rates so high as to break fresh ground in prime-number theory.
Above all, perhaps, at

"No cuts" T-shirts.

least the Tories are suffibeen a deflection. The Poll | ciently non-Sunday school | great stakeholding com- | by these people.

now accepted as the given order of things. Cliff Richard and his mates on the Labour side haven't a clue. They really believe "worldclass companies" (ruthless predators) prefer an edu-cated, motivated workforce

to a nice low wage bill. When huge companies that other great stake-whore from country to holder BMW extracted country demanding bribes about \$100 million. and sweeteners (sorry, "location packages") to set up factories, they know the incentives they demand will come from, inter alia, the education budget. Do they wolves, howl like a wolf.

Tax was pretty awful, but it to stand half a chance of pany Mercedes-Benz in-did shield us from the dealing with the bogus, pi-"local income tax" pro-ratical "global market", new car plant. Alabama vited US states to bid for a new car plant. Alabama "won", at a cost of nearly \$300 million in subsidies. To maintain its payments to Mercedes, Alabama tried raiding its education budget, and is now borrowing from its own pension fund at penal rates of interest. Over in South Carolina,

We at least have a governing party on much the same moral level as our big-business masters. As Lenin said, when among Better still, be a wolf. New Three years ago, that Labour will be eaten alive

Ron Cox

makes

grade

in Japan

LASSIC Cliche was a bitter disappointment in yesterday's Arc, but Godolphin's run of global suc-cess continued in Tokyo on

Saturday when Annus Mirabilis captured the £399,625 Mainichi Okan under

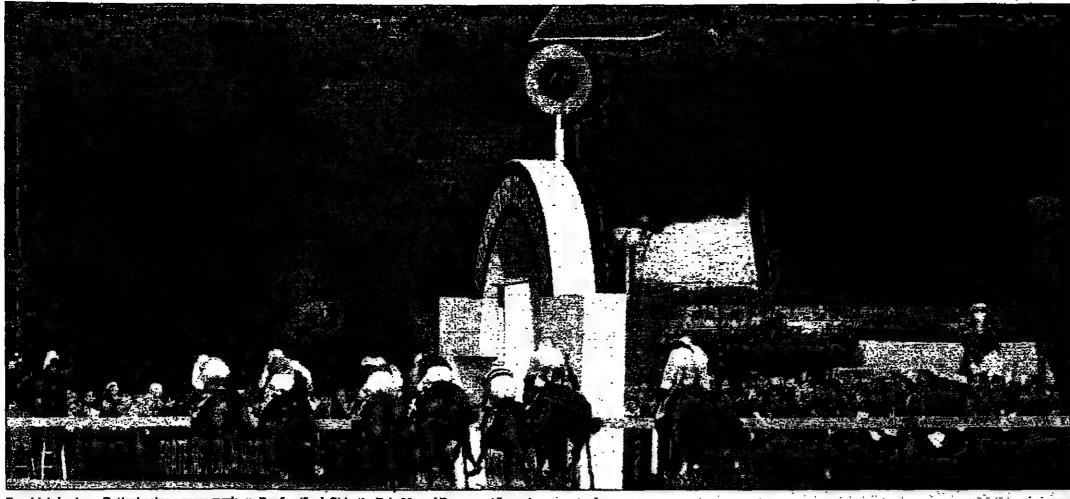
The four-year-old, a 92-10 shot, was held up in third be-

hind Toyo Lyphard before go-ing on to land the nine-fur-long event by a length and a half. Annus Mirabilis has been a regular in European pattern races since he finished 12 lengths second to the now-retired Celtic Swing in the

Racing Post Trophy at Don-caster two years ago.

Holland, who has been rid-ing on a three-month contract

Darryll Holland.



Frankje's back . . . Dettori gains a narrow win on Ryzfan (far left) in the Prix Marcel Boussec at Longchamp yesterday

Reid rides off into the Sunset after Arc fall

Three cheers for Britain on Arc de Triomphe day as Alhaarth finally comes good. Graham Rock reports from Longchamp

from the floor to win the Sunset & Vine Prix de l'Opera on Donna Viola at Longchamp yesterday. Having fallen heavily from Polaris Flight in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe 45 minutes earlier, Reid was stretchered off the course, but he declared himself fit on his return to the weighing room and gave Donna Viola a tremendous ride to snatch an unlikely victory in the final strides. All the way up the straight

cess, and one of the most im-portant in the carear of Chris Wall, who trains 32 horses at Newmarket. Having watched the Arc.

Wall thought he might have to find a late substitute jockey, but afterwards Reid confirmed he had no qualms about taking the ride. 'I was shaken up a bit, but I'm fine

picked himself up from the floor to win the Sunset & Vine Prix tightly-packed field, Reid produced his filly in the final 50 yards to land a dramatic success and the sunset weekend, so I came here with some confidence, although this was a hig step. up. She was boxed in with no-

where to go up the straight, but it might have suited her."

Doma Viola was rested during the summer with a view to campaigning during the autumn. "The Matron Stakes at The Curragh and today's race were her targets, and now she's won both. I'll champ crowd witnessed an and Yashmak 16 see how she is when she gets home, but she might not run stylists. Dettori low and I about the pair.

again this year," added Wall.
The victory was a welcome change of luck for Reid, who had been disqualified after winning the Prix de Condé on the straight, was persistently and the straight, was persistently and the straight. Monza the previous after-noon, when he was given a

four-day suspension.
Frankie Dettori might have finished last on Classic Clicke in the Arc, but he brought a in the Arc, but he brought a roar of approval from the invading army of British racegoers when driving home Ryafan to beat Yashmak and Pat Eddery in a pulsating finish to the Prix Marcel Bousse, providing Khaled Abdullah with the first two home.

the straight, was persistently challenged by Ryafan, and in the final 50 metres Dettort's mount inched in front to beat her rival by a head, with Family Tradition two and a half lengths back in titrd. "Two great jocksys," said John Gosden, echoing the sentiments of the crowd, after

sending out his third winner of the meeting.

Opinion varied regarding the chance of these two fillies in next year's 1,000 Guineas. Ryafan is a top-priced 14-1 and Yashmak 16-1, both with

"Ryafan will be trained for the Guineas," Gosden confirmed, "But she has plenty of stamina in her pedigree and we'll have to consider the

enjoy the best of runs, came fourth. "We never really had a chance," said her trainer, David Loder. There was a third British success yesterday when Al-haarth recorded his first vic-

tory of the season in the Prix du Rond-Point. The winter year's 2,000 Guineas and Derby made all the running at a cracking pace, which had most of his rivals struggling in the final 400 metres. He kept up the gallop to

beat Shaanxi, his only serious challenger in the closing stages, by a length and a half.
The overseas challengers failed in the Prix de l'Abbaye for the first time in 19 years. but the race did not go as expected to the 2-5 favourite, Anabas. He led inside the final 200

metres, but was caught close home by Criquette Head's second runner. Kistena, who had a neck to spare. Last year' winner, Hever Golf Rose, finished two lengths back in third.

Mine Head said afterwards that she was not surprised to have saddled the first two home, but she readily admitted that she had anticipated

in Japan since August and was gaining his first win from 37 mounts, said: "I had ridden this horse about a year ago but I feel he has matured a

great deal since then. The Grade Two Mainichi
Okan was opened to international competition for the
first time this year and is the
seventh Japanese race in which foreign runners are

British raiders carried all before them in Italy over the weekend, winning all the four races they contested at San Siro, Milan.

Mistle Cat, trained by Sean Woods, led all the way to beat Mark Johnston's Gothenberg by two lengths in the one-mile Premio Vittorio di Capua

yesterday.
"He loved the mud," said.
Mistle Car's jockey Richard

Hughes.
There were listed race wins for Snow Princess and Hello, trained by John Dunlop, while Lord Huntingdon, who trains Snow Princess, also scored with the newcomer. Viscoumtess Brave. in a maiden race on Saturday.

Sir Mark Prescott's Wiserd King won for the third time in Ireland in the last year when justifying favouritism in the Coolmore Stud Home of Champions Concorde Stakes at Tipperary yesterday.

at Tupperary yesterday.

Beatan at odds-on in the race last season, Wizard King was ridden by George Duffield to a length and a half victory over the Mark Tomplins trained Cool Edge.

Sound Man, sent off at 4-1 on; cruised home by 30 lengths under Richard Dunwood; in the Choon Bound

woody in the Croom House Stud Chase. Scotland's first Sunday jumps meeting was a resounding success yesterday when Kelso pulled in a crowd

"well in excess of 7.000."

Glover to the fore in Cambridgeshire again

Chris Hawkins

EREMY GLOVER may be a quiet, unassuming man and train at an unfashionable address near Work-sop, but few will doubt his perspicacity after he sent out Clifton Fox to win a fourth Tote Cambridgeshire at New-market on Saturday, a race normally reckoned to be one of the toughest handicaps of

more remarkable in view of kind of horse for the race," Stakes. All those losers did treble if Moonax had not by owner Ron Huggins.

the fact that Glover, a former | said Glover. "He is improve | not, of course, make Duffield | chucked away the Prix du Ca-jump jockey, has only saddled | ing. but 1 thought the ground | any the worse as a rider and | dran after ducking violently five runners in the race. | would be too quick for him." | it was just a question of wait-

Clifton Fox led the bounds a merry dance here and never looked in danger of defeat after hitting the front a fur-long and a half out, running on strongly to beat Missile. Glover clearly knows what is required to win this con test, but was not over-com dent, believing the ground might be a shade too fast for

Clifton Fox.

Despite his sbillty, Glover can only be classified as a small trainer, while the win-ning jocksy, Nigel Day, has found it hard to re-establish

himself after several seasons riding in the Far East. George Duffield must have seen despairing of ever riding another winner after 82 successive losers before putting matters right on Last

ing for the right horse. Waiting is the crucial word

when it comes to Last Second, whose delicate constitution means racing takes a lot out of her. This was only her third run of the season, and her fifth in total. Frankie Dettori was in double form at Longchamp on Saturday, winning on Annaba and Flemensfirth, and it

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5 PORTEPRACY APPROPRIES SERVES NYCAP (FIRAL ROLIND) 188
2113-00 DUTTOSKY (148) John Berry 5-10-4
256003 BET WER MOMENY (149) (00) P. Hollershyad 7-4-8
254003- HOLDERS HELL (238) M. Mangher 4-6-4
254005 BERSH SERA (149) D. Robolis 3-9-6
25000 ARSINOVERS (79) (00) J. Ford 4-7-8-8
25000 ARSINOVERS (79) (00) J. Ford 4-7-8
254004 HOADS RACER (60) (82) Jim J. Parmeth 3-7-2
25000 ARSINOVERS (79) (01) J. Ford 4-7-8
2500-251 ALL ON (20) (60) ext (02) J. Holberton 5-8-1
2500-252 METRAT'S LEBACKY (77) (01) D. Arbithon 5-8-15
2500-255 HORDER REVERS (17) D. P. Champher 19-15
2500-255 HORDER REVERS (17) J. Berry 3-8-12
2500-255 ROBORDER REVERS (17) J. Berry 3-8-12
2500-255 BOLDERS TOO (13) MIS V. Monther 4-8-15
2500-255 BOLD TOP (13) B. Robustin 4-8-10
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FORM GENDE - ALL ON Led over 21 ool, soon quickened clear, easily, won by 10 from Areas' (Included September 1 and 100)

ARC OF THE DIVER; Always promiseral, effort 41 gal. not peco to stellange, 71 3rd behind Maxid (Hereit

COP FORM THREE ALL OU B., Ame Of The Diamy 7, Meed Recent 6 1935 Benton Berton 3 8 9 February 7-1 | Heaving 10 meets 1935 Benton 5-1 At On, 6-1 Ac Of The Diamy 7-1 Food Roce, 8-1 Col Dutosty, 12-1 Stral a Legaty, Ashover, Inab Sea, in The Money

3.45 TRINEDAD & TORAGO RAMDICAP 2m 1f 52,787

in the rails. Moonax is too clever for his own good, but at least he did not disgrace him-self, as he did last year, by trying to make a meal of one of his rivals.

of his rivals.

The big disappointment of the Cadran was Double Trigger, who, although be did not like the soft ground, was never asked to go about his business by Jason Weaver, where retries were existent.

4.15 BUCCOO HER CLASSES STAKES STD OF CALCES

4-15 RIJECOG RIBER CLAIRERS STATES STO 64 CLA75

801 11138 ORTOLAN (11) (D) R Harmon 5-73

802 DESCO MARDALE REST (16) (D) T Berron 5-72

803 DESCO MARDALE REST (16) (D) T Berron 5-72

804 20530 RESER TERRIC (14) (D) J Berry 5-7

806 24100 SCATHERIUMY (10) (D) K Burks 6-7

807 20535 RESER TERRIC (14) (D) J Berry 5-7

807 20535 THE PRINCY FARMER (66) (D) W Turner 6-7

808 SEED CHARDAL AND HILLE (SI) MAR J CORE 6-4

809 DESCO POREDAT (44) (D) J Wharton 8-4

810 10006 LITTLE MORCHING (17) (D) C Dury 6-8

811 SARROYA STATE (7) MARTY WARE 6-3

812 SEED CHARDAL (14) (D) Exicus 6-4

813 SEED CHARDAL (14) (D) Exicus 6-4

814 SEED CHARDAL (14) (D) Exicus 6-3

815 SEED CHARDAL (14) (D) Exicus 6-3

816 SEED CHARDAL (14) (D) Exicus 6-3

817 J-0000 BRAILSTON DARBE (27) Intri J Plannicks 7-13

818 40 SEES WALST (20) G Bools 7-12

16 nomes YOP FORM TIPS: Origins is, Middle Seet 7, Mew Turn 6

4.45 MARAYAL HARRICAP 3YO 1m C5,527

S SARAVAL HARMICAP AVO 1 on CS,587

(23251 MAND POR BARLEYS (13) (D) is Junusian

(23252 BLESSED, SPERIT (20) (D) C WAR 9-4

(00062 NO CLICHES (11) (D) (BF) G Lovis 9-1

(2220) SARAP SKUPFLE (27) R Hamma 9-1

(SSED) MARLANIA (20) P Nethym 8-8

(0200 MARSKA (14) is Viscolute 9-4

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FINAN CREDE - CRYOLANA IN SCHOOL READING OVER 15 CLAL SCOT WELLERED, 125 5th behind Dec Boo FORMS CREEKS - CHITCH. AM IN COURT REACHING OVER IT CILL, SOON SHEARCHING, TO SEE COURT OF SOON (COLORIDAD COURT OF SOON COLORIDAD COLORID

1995: Salasmatis 3 9 4 3 Rold 4-1 (Mar. 3 R Reproduct) 15 rais Bettings 9-2 Messis Too. 5-1 Mest For Bettings 9-1 No Clickes, Bhassad Spirs, 7-4 Sharp Branch, 5-1 Scenicris, Mole Baby, Flassing Jone, 14-1 Marjates, Ivor's Deed, Falcat's Flame.

Cigar meets match but remains on course for the Breeders' Cup

tober 26.

CIGAR, America's star Breeders' Cup Classic at Voodbins, Toronto, on Ocshock defeat when falling to peg back the champion three-year-old Skip Away, shock defeat when failing tober 26.

to peg back the champion three-year-old Skip Away, rider, said: "I met a horse I couldn't beat. I started in at the half-mile pole but from Saturday's Jockey Club Gold Cup at Belmont Park, New York.

It was Cigar's accord.

It was Cigar's second reverse in three races — his 16-race winning streak coming to an end in the Pa-cific Classic at Del Mar in Cigar will still run in the Invitational.

Fontwell (N.H.)

the winner."
Paul Cole-trained Posi

donas came last and Der-mot Weld's Definite Article

sixth behind Diplomatic Jet

23 from Forgle (Newcassia 2a. Co-Fist).
Separative State, Lea deer 2 wold 87 and, proposed finel 21, first, SIA (foot Good Haws), promitted to 2nd, who great the STAT CHATTON 31-dis, placed and, stellar TO THE LAST 7th 3 STAR PEPPORAIER 3to (Ary Zin't), Co-Fint;
SIALEMARIN Hard Hidden over 1 bad, the on one peak, 28 2nd blad (Andoursever (Camerini 2nt, Co-Fint).
SIALEMARIN Hard State (8) the hid Powership Anthe (Languad) and state (7) Co-Fint. 2.30 MUSIC CORK EXPRISAY NOVICE CLASSING PURICLE 244 OF 110 year ES, 150

> Betting: 7-4 Cales Med. 9-4 Greenskie Chai, 11-4 Scansalisch, 10-1 Ferens Mail, 14-1 Aerodynsmic, Coolegale, 26-1 Churchiosa Spiril, Keep-On, Shelbotne 3.00 THANK CONDELL CHALLENGE THOPHY HANDICAP CHASE SHI SI CA,720 09-5-34 WHO'S TO SAY (42) (87) Miss V Williams 10-13-0
> 10011-3 ARRALA (42) (C) (D) J Gibbot 11-1-1
> 10011-3 ARRALA (42) (C) (D) J Gibbot 11-1-1
> 11793-5 BLACK GRANCE (121) (D) R Bows 10-10-6
> 1187-10 MISSLAY WOOD 213 (CD) (MP) P Hobbs 11-10-6
> 127-352 WINDERSHA (5) A Newcords 12-10-2
> (1312-3 CRACKLENG PROST (21) Mr) D Hight 8-10-0
> (1312-3 CRACKLENG PROST (21) Mr) D Hight 8-10-0

3-21312 (DESTAINT AMERICARY (24) (SE) P Hobbe 7-12-0 7-67-05 ARTHUS ANTHUS (TO) L Greenick 10-10-0 DAG-3-05 ARTHUS ANTHUS (TO) E BOUGHE 9-10-0 PROUGH P ESPECIFY/NICON (20) J Madiens 5-10-0 1995: Charged 6 11 3 Mr S Malcaire 13-6 (P J Robbs) 5 cm

Betfings 1-4 Distant Memory, 11-2 Seasamacausie, 14-1 Artha Arthur, Engetymo 5.00 LANGSTONE CONSURVATIVE CLUB MOVICE HUNDLE 2m 2 110-4 C2,511

bettings 4-7 Mr Esgar, 4-1 Decolo, 12-7 Rodsham Bridge, Coddy's First, 16-1 Zuns Flyer, Hollow Wood, 25-1 Noz Pablo, 23-1 Riewa • Blinkered today for the first time. PONTEFRACT 2.15 Canadian Fantasy; 3.15 Irish Sea, Rainelle; 4.45 Marjaana; 5.15 State of Caution. FONTWELL 2.30 China Mail.

Bettings -1 Ortolan, 5-1 Specioses, 6-1 River Tern, Mildde East, 16-1 Holy Majnetire, Little Roggins, 18-1 Braneton Datast, 14-1 On Whateledgist, 16-1 Specialbury, The Printe Farmer 1985: Rabbert Custle & 10 1 P Hide 4-1 (1 T Girlant) 10 res lettings 8-4 Heatey Wood, 7-2 Kindle'n Deligiel, 4-1 Arwede, 9-1 Black Charch, Wingspan, 7-1 Aedaen, 16-1 Jackling Food, 25-1 Who's To Say 3.30 - GALLICH SPRAY CHALLESION TROPHTY FFCAP RESDUE 240 24 1 10746 (22,044 1 83132 COME BY (109 (CO)) LINCH S 1-1-10

1 83132 COME BY (109 (CO)) LINCH S 1-1-10

2 02127- DOW NOVAGE (140) D Grand 4-11-2

4 00-2173 RE 900 (200) WTure 4-10-11

3 1403-0 CHESTS GLEN (110) J Bradley 7-10-0 # 711 7 St A Bridge # 1 (6 8 Bulley) 4 ras Bettings 2-4 Box Voyage, 9-4 Re Rol. 9-2 Gone By, 5-4 Circle's Cleri, 7-1 Star Of David O'S THESES. BORLESS AND PANDATURES IN CAR SUBSUL 2441(1)— PRINCINS BOTTEM. (120) (CSD) IR Rows 1-12-10. 214(82— KARAR (202) (CSD) IR Rows 6-11-13. 59-4555 PRESENDALTINE (20) It House 6-11-10. 104(13-5 SECUE MISSILLE (18) Q J Houghton 5-11-4. 124(13-5 SECUE MISSILLE (18) Q J Houghton 5-11-4. 60-6542 (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-2. 800(10-5) (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-2. 800(10-5) (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-2. 800(10-5) (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-3. 90(10-5) (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-3. 90(10-5) (SECUES COLOUNS C21) (C) - Junetim 6-11-3. 90(10-5) (SECUES CARACTER (120) (SECUES C21) (SECU 1885; Panch's Kolel 10 11 2 D O'Talfon, 6-2 (R Rows) 10 ye ittings 4-1 Mr Snaggia, 5-1 Karar, 11-2 Scool Missile, 6-1 Captain Coa, 7-1 Punch's Holel, 10-1 Progettys, Victor Scieve, Cress Colours, 12-1 Sophie May, 25-1 Dorens Way, 50-1 Poper's Pai 4.30 edkolaton amatriir federt novice fecap chase 300 21 110yds (2,491

2PF- NAVES (165) K Vircent 5-10-12 2 NOTACEN BRIDGE (21) G Viscon 5-10-22 PASP-29 CANDYTE PREST (27) S Mellor 4-10-11 0PO-20MO FLYER (156) A Morry 4-10-11

Pontefract runners and riders with form guide KCHNIG Dwell, beginner hellwer, ridden gwer 11 out, 90on besten, 25 Am. | POINS GUEST - HETS GOT STREEM Hets uz, hendwer over 21 out, isd inside lest, ran op strengty, son b Potent Status - Doubleman Francisco Lover in success property, recent over 1 oct. Your observ, an embested Status (1994) and the Springton House, with ABSTONE CREEN (rec 1994) and the ABSTONE CREEN (rec 1994) and the College of the Springton House, with ABSTONE CREEN (rec 1994) and the College of the Springton House, with ABSTONE CREEN (rec 1994) and College of the College of th

2.45 Srutal Paniesy 6.15 Ortobio 2.15 MF CLAXION BAY MAIDER STAKES SVO 1m 2f E4,202 SEEF CLACTON BAY MAJDER STAKES EVO 1m 20 64,806

LICAL CAMADRAIN FARTAST (18) LI JOHNTON 9-0.

10 JACKS ROOME (19) T Clement 9-0.

10 PERFECT PARADIDER (18) J GORDON 1-0.

10 PERFECT PARADIDER (18) J GORDON 1-0.

10 PERFECT PARADIDER (18) J GORDON 1-0.

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10 PERFECT PARADIDER (18) J Control 1-0.

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10 PERFECT PARADIDER (1

ook 2 t O L Dettori 10-11 (I A Beiding) 14 res Bettings 9-4 Tummy Torcoise, 11-4 Canadian Fancary, 4-1 Sever Pathacon, 5-1 Perfect Paradigm, 12-Vicis Romana, 14-1 Warring, 15-1 Pre-tirer Juck Brown, PORMI GLIDE - CANADIAN PANTASY) Led 21, had again over 16 out until headed close home 150 2nd Octoma Brane Manhomeres (Ay 71, CAPen) TOWNY TORTONSIE MANADAY over 16 cul. ran de pre page. Of 2nd blid Allenge Denne (Basem hml My, Od-

ACCESS | DARRESIL PRINCESS (1 5) (EP) R Hollwidged 9-1
641 SARRESING (16) (Farthers 8-1
52753) OUR WEVER (ES) (D) N VECAURR 3-0
529464 SELL BOR BOY (40) LI VE EARNES 8-1
5295 KRING UND (16) LIS J. Ramsden 8-1
5295 DORRES CARRESI (9) T 6 Januar 8-1
5002 SARRARI (289) J. Preptus 8-1
15443 ARSTONE OURDER (10) (D) P Evens 6-9
1001 NO SPARKY (11) (D) LI W Exceptib 8-7
10055 DORRESIT (11) (D) LI W Exceptib 8-7
10055 CHINGACHGOOK (12) P Harts 8-6

's Dancer 6, Clobetrotter 7, Scutal Factory 6 1995: Golden Pond 2 9 2 A McGlore 8-1 (8.J Houghton) 15 ram Bettings :- 1 Danehill Princess, 8-1 Brown Fantsky, Donma's Dancer, Globetrotter, Overly, 10-4 Serain. Abstanc Guern Count Robotto, 13-1 FUE End Boy. Changachgook, 14-1 Barrasbo, Oer Kevin

3.45 TRINEDAD & TORAGO RAMORCAP 2m 17 E3,787
401 25212 HULLBARK (16) W Hosp 6-9-10
402 C20 SAFA (27) A Shemal 3-6
403 14202 SHELLEY SARK (17) N Johnston 3-6-6
404 USGO- RAMBELLE (281) J Wests 4-9-4
405 35256 BEZTAR (21) J Sams 9-9-3
406 01005 SARK (17) N FOR SARK (17) N 2522 MILLBANK (16) W Haups 6-9-10
20 SAFA (27) A Selemin 1-9-6
1-4062 SHRELEY SHE (17) M Juniston 1-9-6
1-4062 SHRELEY SHE (17) M Juniston 1-9-6
SSCOP RESEARCH (28) J Waits 49-4
SSCOP METVAN (21) J Banics 8-9-3
01005 CARLY PRACE (10) A Polision 4-9-2
13533 GREAT GRAATION (17) (20) F Walson 1-9-1
000-000 KEEN TO THE LAST (17) M Homomod 1-8-11
47:18-9 ARC SSIGNET (21) (19) R Hollienhead 8-8-10
1-42:18-19 ARC SSIGNET (21) (19) R Hollienhead 8-8-10
1-42:05 TARL PRINCESSIENT (17) (10) Mry M Persiany 6-9-10
1-43:19-10 M Homomod 3-8-7
52:191 MPS (00) WINGE (2) (48) eq Mis J Ramsjon 3-8-7
52:191 MPS (00) WINGE (2) (48) eq Mis J Ramsjon 3-8-7
10:5033 TOP PRIZE (44) M Britain 8-7-10 14 removes 10-5 He's Get Wings 10, Shiring See S, Great Oration 7
10 FORM 10-5 He's Get Wings 11-2 Shiring See 7-1 Great Gration, 8-1 Hubbark, Star Performer, Sale, 14-1
Restings 11-4 He's Got Wings, 11-2 Shiring See, 7-1 Great Gration, 8-1 Hubbark, Star Performer, Sale, 14-1
Keen To The Last, Maryan, Edinir Piscos, 16-1 Art, Bright 2412.40, CSF C234 OS Tricas: C2.513.52, NSI & Bergerac, So Intropic.
2.40 (up 1 100).40 T, BASTER BAYER.
2.20, K Fallon (7-2 lart, 2, Break, The Rades (10-1), 3, beath See Babbio (8-1)
15 ran, 25, nk, ip Evanol fole 53.90, E170, C3.80 E3.70 Dual F E32.70, CSF E40.02
Tric, E45.20 NR: Shamokin,
4.10 (1m): 1, RESELL COUNTY, D Bogo.
4.10 (1m): 1, RESELL COUNTY, D Bogo.
4.11 (2; Warnshig Trends (5-1), 3, Le.
Tebes (8-1), 12 can 15, 35 (A Bailey) Tole; 55 40, E190, C2.20, E36 Dual F E14.00,
CSF E26.49, Tricast E153.95, Tric E158.30
4.40 (77): 1, FUTURE PERFECT, O Parkin
(16-1), 2, Desaled Deronde (8-1), 3, Bushhari (15-6 lav) 11 ran, 15, hd, (M W
Easterby) Tole; C13.60, E290, C2.50, C1.02,
Dual F E206.60 CSF C138.41 Tric; E210.20
JACKBOTT Not work, C2 140.55 carried for-

1.30 (67): 1, RISTENA (O Doleuzo); 2, Amber 7, Neme Gelf Fram. 10 rps. FE. 2 (Alme C Hozol Toto (one have stake): 15.60; 1.10, 2.10, 1.30 Duals F. (A.Zo. 2.06 (1mb; 1, RYAFAN II. Detion); 2, Yashungir, 3, Pennity Tradition. 13 ren. Hd. 2. | J Gosden) Tote (one franc stake); 21.00; 22.80 (2.70, Da.A. Dual F 110.76 (winner coupled with Yesthyad).

FORM GENERAL AND SELLE TOPS: Led over 11 and gold headed close legals, rik 2nd headed (Anti-Form Camers - washing from the confidence of the reg SSUARE SHIPPLE: In touch, led inside final furting, ran on well, beat Time Of Night 19 (Kempton 77. Gd). SCUBECKIE: Behind, etgri over 21 out, never near to challesige, 100 Shi to Equaty (Ayr 1m. Gd-Fo). MELS BASY? In locks, headway over 21 out, led aloes borre, wor by 11 from Assauce Vaniare (Redicer 1m. 5.15 CARONI MADDER STAKES 3YO 1m C3,989 02025 ALPRIC HINEAWAY (31) 8 Hunbury 9-0 6-2233 AXFORD (20) (8F) P Chappin-Hybri 8-0 (3) BEAMO SCRIPT (9) Mass S Hing 8-0 8-2203 ALFORD (20) (IRF) P Chappin-Hybra 8-0

OR BEAMO SCIENT (IV) Were 9-1 Has 8-0

5-5 REOTHER ROY (71) T AMR 9-0

CANYON CHARKA, A CASCION 3-0

DENSITION STAR P BROOM 9-0

OR SHARK THE (105) H Cod 9-0

OR SHARK THE (105) H Cod 9-0

SHARK STATE OF CAUTION (42) J Dunlop 8-0

COMMON SHARK CHTY (2-4) W Hagin 9-0

GETTA (407) WHILE COMP 1-0

SWIND SHARK AND DAMCE (17) E Weyness 8-0

SWIND SHARK AND DAMCE (17) E Weyness 8-0

SWIND SHARK AND DAMCE (17) E Weyness 8-0

SWIND SHARK AND DAMCE (17) E Weyness 8-0 1955 (Lamouratio 3 8 9 to Richarder 11-4 (N.A. Alcabana) 18 com Bellings 11-4 Gasyon Creek, 11-2 Autors 8-1 State Of Caudon, 8-1 Bease Script, Yelsen Hope, 18-1 Gree Chief, Brother Rot, 12-1 Alpine Hidesmay, Family Man, 20-1 Cents CHECK, ENGINE THE ATT PERIOR THEOSTER, CHECK HOUSE, CHILD HELD, 21 3rd behind Supermore, with YURON HOPE, the Sib, Indian 2 lost, assets when his hope of Sib perior Sib, Indian 2 lost, assets when his hope of Sib perior Sib, Indian 2 lost, assets when his hope of Sib perior Sib perior Sib, Indian Si

JACKPOT: Not won; £2 140,55 carried for-RACELINE PONTEFRACT 101 201

1.30 (70): 1, POTEEN, O Urbina (3-1): 2, Chatans (8-1): 3, Sear's Ruby (16-1): 2-1 as Party Fornanco, 11 ran Nic, 41 Cumany, 154s; 14 00; 21.50; 12.5

Results

before them

Miles Co.

Barto Service

AND SHIP SHOP

Commence of the second

ALEXES -

A TOWN YOU

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3....

SPORTS NEWS 13

Rugby Union

Courage League One: Gloucester 28, Wasps 23

in Japan Dunn sees red as Wasps crash

Garbier and Carlos Andrews Continued to Tolk ASPS suffered their first defeat of the season and had their booker Kevin Dunn sent off against his former club for stamping in a fractious, fragmented game that brought Gloucester much-needed league points in front of the Kingsholm faith-

ful yesterday.

The resulf leaves Harlequins flying high at the top of the table with the only 100 per cent record in the two upper divisions. islons, a consequence that can but deepen Wasps' sense of dis-satisfaction at slipping back. Dunn, who spent six years with Gloucester before join-

ing Wasps, was sent off by the Yorkshire referee Douglas Chapman 15 minutes from time after doing a tap-dance on the Gloucester centre Mar-

"If you stamp on somebody you deserve all you get." said Wasps' director of rugby Ni-gel Melville. He pointed out that Dunn would lose match fees and possible win bonnses as a result of his likely six

weeks' suspension.

Melville said a number of
Wasps players would be fined
by the club for persistent indiscipline and backchat to the referee, whose stream of pen-alty awards to Gloucester allowed their goal-kicker Mark Mapletoft to score 18 points with six successful kicks out of nine. "Now that we've lost to Gloucester, other sides from lower down the league will also think they can beat us," he said.

Gloucester's first league win not only lifts them off the bottom but is also likely to persuade their young side that they are a good deal bet-ter than previous results sug-gested. Tries by the backs, Saverimutto and Catling, underlined the fluent 15-man game the director of rugby Richard Hill has fostered since he arrived at Kingsholm

nearly a year ago.

However, it did take Gloucester some time to get going. Their forwards often drove to within a metre of the



Holding operation . . . Saverimutto escapes the clutches of Dallaglio to set up another Gloucester attack at Kingsholm yesterday

posts rather than kick them cost the hosts a possible six points. Mapletoff did finally and a penalty from 20 metres which Rees promptly answered with a short-range

penalty for Wasps. Midway through the half Gloucester scored a surpris-ingly tame try when Windo and Lloyd combined sweetly to send the centre Saverimutto cruising smoothly down the left without a Wasps

hand to hinder his progress. Mapletoft's second penalty in-creased the lead to 11-3 but two minutes later Wasps hit back through their right-wing Scrase, who touched down a chip-kick by Rees after good work with King and Gomarsall.

ary midfield bite mainly be-cause Tuigamala was missing with a calf strain, but the

to contain Gloucester's frantic attempts to punch holes through the centre. It was a different story, though, on the left flank where the Glouces-ter full-back Catling took a short pass and left the cover defence floundering as he raced through to score soon after half-time.

Wasps' back row, with their No. 8 Sheasby absent with a thigh injury, lacked its usual

Rees kept the Londoners in touch with a second penalty before Mapletoft extended Scorems: Quies September 2 Storems Cather Penalty with two more kicks.

100 150 LAD

Although Wasps responded posts, which King converted, a further score proved beyond

their capability.
In any case Mapletoft had the last word with his sixth

a good reason to celebrate.

international: Italy 22, Wales 31

Dragon slays the Italian dinosaur

claim that 35,000 spectators would turn up at the Olympic Stadium to watch Wales was an example of how hype and hyper-bole have combined to present an image of rugby in the country as vibrant and virile. In the event the crowd barely reached the 3,500 mark and, far from roaring the lionhearted Azzurri to victory as the Italy coach Georges Coste had predicted on Friday, the sparse crowd meant the splendour of the ground was in marked contrast to the funereal atmosphere the down Neil Jenkins's attempt

maich was played in. Far from establishing an irresistible claim to a place in the Five Nations Champion-ship, Italy showed that, for all the gusto and the elan that they employ in the build-up to internationals, they are tacti-cally naive and are stylistically stuck in the dinosaur

A popular misconception is the French in their approach. Italy are wedded to a slow setpiece game and are heavily dependent on the boot of the fly-half Diego Dominguez. There is a cynicism to their game, as England discovered in the 1991 World Cup. Rugby has changed but Italy are standing still, as Coste half-acknowledged afterwards.

The only solace for Wales after an unenterprising, sterhad avoided another embar rassing defeat. They laboured to make their obvious superiority count and having been 13 points ahead after 20 min-

to win in the last quarter. The Wales players and plained of fatigue and burnout all season because of a surfeit of matches players are suffering from, though — and the claims hardly square with the contention of the Wales centre Scott Gibbs that so little happens on a rugby pitch that he is more bored than tired — but an excess of

tally jaded. On the few occasions when they raised their game on Saturday they hind the scrum. The centre Gareth Thomas scored two tries and justified his move from the wing to the centre, but overall Wales were more concerned with routine and

ritual than with routine and ritual than with enterprise.

That they won in the end was arguably down to an error by the referee. Italy's only try came after the South African official Carl Spannenberg had missed a knock-on in the build up and be then failed. the build-up and he then failed to notice that the hooker Carlo Orlandi had grounded the ball after Dominguez had charged

at clearance.
Dominguez's fifth penalty briefly gave Italy the lead 22-21 with 17 minutes to go. Wales were stirred by the wates were surred by the score but not shaken and immediately replied after charging runs by Gibbs and Thomas. Victory was greeted with relief rather than elation, and the expression on the faces of the Wales players afterwards as they trudged about trying to find where the about trying to find where the after-match function was

being held said it all.
"I've probably got to play
for Bridgend against Leices-ter on Tuesday," said
Thomas. "It will be my 12th match of the season.

Wales do not give the im-pression that they are enjoy-ing their rugby or the conse-quences of full-time professionalism, but it is unstimulated minds which have to be addressed by the man-agement rather than aching joints, otherwise another sea son of failure beckons.

Pertile, 61min), 5 florder, Francetesto, L. Masteri; D. Domingus A. Trencer; M. Catilita (capt), C. Orlean



Out of reach . . . Gareth Thomas scores Wales's second try

London Irish 31, Bath 56

Exiles distracted by new club v country dispute

Robert Armstrong on a row off the pitch ply the provinces with play that overshadowed an entertaining game

in expecting the club to supply the provinces with play cluded a hat-trick of tries by the Bath wing Adedayo and two more by the for their success, losing their ing when he described Adesign and the club to supply the provinces with play cluded a hat-trick of tries by the Bath wing Adedayo and two more by the for their success, losing their ing when he described Adesign and the club to supply the provinces with play cluded a hat-trick of tries by the Bath wing Adedayo and two more by the for their success, losing their ing when he described Adesign and the club to supply the provinces with play cluded a hat-trick of tries by the Bath wing Adedayo and two more by the for their success, losing their ing when he described Adesign and the club to supply the provinces with play cluded a hat-trick of tries by the Bath wing Adedayo and two more by the form. that overshadowed an entertaining game

ATH's coruscating nine-try victory over London Irish went some way to explaining why the Exiles have refused to release their players to the three Irish provinces taking the Heineken European Corn which states are being paid salaries. "We are being paid salaries pean Cup, which starts next Saturday. London Irish, who have now lost five out of six league games, claim they must concentrate on putting their own house in order before spreading their limited playing resources across the Irish Sea.

The thinly veiled hint from the Irish RFU that Englandbased players who do not turn out for their provinces may miss out on international selection cuts no ice with the don Irish chief executive, said

"We are being paid salaries here and our welfare depends on the Courage league and the European Cup," said Halpin. "It's in our interest to get the club up and running and to use the European games to build up our form for the league battles to come. Today we made a lot of basic errors but I believe Europe will be good for us. Our problems can

be rectified." Duncan Leopold, the Lon-Exiles. According to the club | that the IRFU is being unfair

part. "It would be a disgrace to use the players as a baton in a running dispute with our players do have contracts with the IRFU but they are

Wigan recruit Jason Robinson, tended to be over-shadowed by yet another confasing club-union wrangle. The Exiles demonstrated

with the IRFU but they are also salaried by us and we have given them the opportunity to play in the top league in the northern hemisphere."

Leopold insisted that London Irish remain totally supportive of Ireland, respect the needs of the provinces, and will work with them within reason. But significantly he pointed out that the Exiles other three in seven minutes are also members of English

scrum-half Nicol with a hambayo, whose tries were due reward for powerful running, as "the best winger in the string injury and their highly influential captain De Glanville with damaged knee liga-ments, the kind of nasty injucountry if not the British Isles". Certainly the England A back should be chosen for sufficient fighting spirit to ries which could rule them score four excellent tries, no out for up to a month. The impressive performance of they already have troubles the replacements Harrison out for up to a month. The next month's full interna-impressive performance of tional against Italy, assuming impressive performance of the replacements Harrison and Perry showed why Bath dispense with will keep the leading clubs Underwood. looking over their shoulder in the months ahead.

"Harlequins and Wasps are the sides playing the rugby right now but I believe we are reason. But significantly he pointed out that the Exiles are also members of English Professional Rugby Union Clubs Ltd, which is counting on Irish support having told all member clubs that they should not release players to the Irish provinces.

Sadly, the spectacular is minute period followed by another three in seven minutes of seven minutes of firing on eight cylinders, "said John Hall, Bath's director of rugby. "It was a fabulous game. When you'e not on top of the league, doubts can creep in, but I told the players, "Don't doubt the game you are playing," because I knew they had a great reason. B Washer Cossessione Callad 4, Penelty Callard, Penelty Callar

the selectors have decided to

BCOMERE London trible Tries: Briers, O'Shen 2, Watsh, Conversiones Humpfroy's 4-Pennity: Humpfroys: Bette Triess Callard, Adobayo 3, Webster, Guscott, Robinson 2, Redman, Conversiones: Callard 4-Pennitys Catlard.

they look by far the stron-gest of a pool that includes Neath and the French

tough guys from Brive. Best was warming to that theme in an after-match

press conference in a Porta-kabin on The Stoop build-ing site when it shuddered wildly on its supports.

These are turbulent times.

SCOPERS: Nursequines Trios: Harries 3, Bronsley 2, Paul 2, Connelly 2, Benézech, Carling, Davison, Watton, penally by, Couvernimus Carling 8, Penality: Carling, Carvernimus Carling 8, Penality: Carling, Conversions Stre

Sky TV deal can heal club rifts

television cash from BSkyB. appear to be the key to solving the year-long dispute be-tween Twickenham and its leading clubs, writes lan

Europe's top clubs are on the verge of admitting that they cannot run themselves as separate commercial entities and need to remain within their unions in the professional era.

But English Professional Rughy Union Clubs, the body responsible for Leagues One and Two and which had threatened to break away from the Rugby Football Union on Friday, would have authority over the proposed European cup and leagues. Last Friday the newly

formed European Rugby Federation, of which Epruc is a part, announced plans for two European competitions vastly more ambitious than the Heineken European Cup which begins this Saturday.

The ERF, which represents the top clubs in the four home unions and France, has issued tenders for broadcasting but Sky appears willing to provide an unprecedented amount of money provided that the clubs and the unions broker a truce and the clubs therefore release their play-ers for international squads. we will get the right result,

WO new European-wide competitions, bank-rolled by £140 million of offer to the clubs, which is in addition to the £87.5 million negotiated this year with Twickenham for international and club matches in

England.
This should help resolve our differences rather than hinder them," said Hallett. "If the clubs can get their money there should be less pressure on the RFU to supply money and we can use more of the 287 million for development of the game outside the top 24

An ERF spokesman said:
"Only the creation of a Europe-wide league will pro-vide a viable long-term future for the top clubs in Europe. "The ERF clubs had discus-

sions with Sky last week and the interest from Sky was at tractive because it offered the prospect of a peace formula whereby unions and clubs could work together for the greater good of the game." Leicester's chief executive Peter Wheeler, an influential figure in Epruc, last night

"The Rugby Football Union has tried to drive a wedge between the clubs, but if everybody can hold firm I am sure

Harlequins 89, Orrell 18

Paupers lost in the great divide Variety spices up sideshow as Tigers fluff their lines

ian Maik

ANTED. One millionaire. Please send cheque Edge Hall Road. If ever a match illustrated the new divide in League One this was it, and it was a gulf of

rell's proud players never stopped tackling. Yes, Har-lequins did run in 14 tries to ensure they lead the Courage league as it takes an autumn break, but champagne rugby loses its sparkle when the opposi-tion find it hard to afford a crate of brown ale.

called for England's top clubs to stand firm as they and the RFU prepare to meet for talks

Connolly . . . centre stage

is voicing his disquiet, when sponsors' guests are deciding to uncork another hottle rather than watch a had ceased to be a contest,

a match illustrated the new divide in League One this was it, and it was a gulf of Rift Valley proportions.

That the final outcome was not as gruesome as those at Newcastle and Coventry was only because Orenli's proud players never stopped tackling. Yes, Harlequins did run in 14 tries to ensure they lead the Coveness league as it takes loss of Frano Botica. "We've made inquiries about players but I'm not

going to rush into spending the money," said Peter Wil-liams, Orrell's director of rugby. Such was the shal-lowness of their playing resources on Saturday that the 37-year-old Williams was forced to put himself on the replacements' bench. For another former England fly-half, Rob Andrew, cash is no problem; for Williams, money is

at the root of his. "At the end of the day we either learn from this or we give up," said Williams. "If we keep the side together for a couple of years this won't happen to us when we come down here again." defeat to Nottingham. The are without a point after five Newcastle win demolishes the league games. we come down here again."

When that quintessential | of the table Orrell is that | rector of rugby, now says Quin Nigel Starmer-Smith | they may not be playing | his cosmopolitan side are they may not be playing his cosmopolitan side are concentrating their attentions on Europe, where a top division of the league for a decade is something of a miracle, but now the talk is of a cross-border European competition and Or-rell will be hard pressed to

Bath, Leicester, Wasps and Quins for much longer. Orrell have played all four this season and Williams rates Harlequins the best. All credit to the Londoners, who have made some astute investments with their NEC windfall, Gary Connolly and windfall, Gary Comolly and Robbie Paul were an irrestable combination in the centre, and an unsung signing, the Welsh scrum-half Huw Harries, capped an excellent display with a hattrick of tries.

Dick Best, Harlequins' displayman (Durham). Robbie Paul were an irresistible combination in the centre, and an unsung sign-How Harries, capped an ex-cellent display with a hat-trick of tries.

Newcastle savage Lions

BUGBY and Nottingham, previous record winning mar-both former First Div. gin in the national leagues, ision clubs, seem destined to last season's 91-21 victory lose their League Two status by Harlequins at West after astonishing defeats at Hartlepool the hands of wealthy clubs. Rob Andrew's Newcastle

Newcastle scored 24 tries with Andrew converting 18 of them, and Coventry ran in 14. beat Rugby Lions 156-5 while Coventry handed out a 102-22 | Both Rugby and Nottingham

West Hartlepool 19, Leicester 30

David Invine

NEW-AGE rugby differs from the traditional brand in one important respect: even poor quality matches can be highly entertaining. Saturday's game at Brierton Lane was more a Palace of Varieties than Palladium show — and in champi-onship terms an irrelevance — but it could never be dis-pack. The full-back scored a

Amid the dross were some gleaming nuggets of skill and enterprise, mostly mined it must be said by West, yet the mability of either side to achieve any degree of consistency or control was a lamentable reflection on their atti-

tude and preparation.
Unless West can undergo a
miraculous transformation, of which there is still no sign, and Leicester bring some pattern to their play, the former will be cast into League Two at the season's end and the latter fail to finish in the top three for the first time in five

Much of the blame for the uneven way the match went must be laid at the door of the two fly-halves. Ring appeared to have no rapport with either his centres or flankers and Rob Liley seemed intent on reviving the sort of aimless kicking game most clubs have eagerly jettisoned.

Liley did inadvertently pull | Reference E Morrison (Brisson).

off one stunt that was beyond even Ring. And it probably decided the match. A daft drop-goal attempt bounced off one post, on to the other and then fell back into the unmarked Greenwood's lap. And that put Leicester 12 points clear.

Overall, though, Leicester were chiefly indebted to the flawless six out of six with his goal-kicking while the for-wards, with Cockerill in espe-cially frisky mood, ground out a penalty try and sup-ported Healey, their liveliest attacker, for another short-

West, for whom lons, Mitchell and Wood were outstanding, had the satisfac-tion of matching Tigers try for try. And all three were the product of excellent hand-ling and support play. Once again, though, there were too many careless lapses of concentration.

CONCENTRATION.

SCORIERS: West Hartlepush: Tries: Wood 2, S John. Conversions: C John 2. Letoester: Tries: Drate-Lee, Greenwood. penalty try. Conversions: J Liley 3. Penalties: J Liley 3. West Hartlepook M Silvs (K Oliphant Semin): G Truetove, S John, C John, M Wood: M Ring (capi); P Harvey: W da Jonge, A Pencock, Y Hartland (P Whitelock, SS), C Hart (A Rems., 40), D Mitchelt, A Tax, A Brown, J Ions.

Letoester: J Liley, S Hardeney, S Potter, W Greenwood, R Underwood (capit): R Liley, A Healey; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garlorth, N Fletcher, M Poole, J Wells, W Drake-Lee, E Miller.

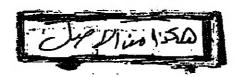
Referee E Morrison (Erictol).







Winners and losers Hami	burg's Vince Paiko (left) and I	Kavier Kairey smoke Victory ci	gars after winning the German	n Bowl, Caroline Pierce misses	a putt in the Big Apple Classic	, and Michael Chang goes dow	wn and out to Jonathan Stark
Weekend Fesuits	Second Division Brastford (24 Rotherisam (178 Assas 34.58 Enry 31 Taylor 42 Druce 62 Forster 85 Att 6, 157 Brentford Deardon, Hurde, Anderson, Asthy, McGlaye, Hutchings, Aechs (Hervey 67, Smith, Forster, Abrassins (Borr 52, Taylor, Sob (not used) Forster 85 Att 6, 157 Brentford Deardon, Hurde, Anderson, Asthy, McGlaye, Hutchings, Aechs (Hervey 67, Smith, Forster, Abrassins (Borr 52, Taylor, Sob (not used) Forster United Farrelly, Sandeman, Hurst, Dobbin (Glover 85), Brackin, Bichardson, Berry (Roscoe 65), Crewlord, Druce, Hayward, McGlashan, Sab (not used) Forster 10 Britation (Glover 85), Brackin, Birsten R. P Crews Pharmacy (Gl2 Barrell 24, 25 Stockport (Preston	Herreford (1)2 Searborro (1)2 Strikk 25 Strocks 39 Foster 73 Ribche 75 Auz 2,505 Herreford Lindbad De Boot, Norton, Hibbard, Solith, Brough, Forget, Cook, Sober, Foster, Hergenevea, Presely (Bartlett 72). Bubb (not used): Tomesend, Wester, Searborrough Intrastic, Wester, Hebel, Rocket, McEllinston, Brocke, Mitchell (Thompstone Str., Albarde, Wester, Schole, McEllinston, Brocke, Mitchell (Thompstone Str., Albarde, Wester, Schole, McEllinston, Brocke, Mitchell (Thompstone St., Albarde, Westerne, Schole, McEllinston, Brocke, Mitchell (Thompstone St., Albarde, Hell (2)) Serithera (Labors St.) Hell (Christone, Trevill, Nicot) (Street, Joyce, Allison, Wright (Caravas 63), Brien, Joyce, Caldiery (Powledge 61), Darby, Mean, Pessook, Sertori, Weister, Street, Menther Christone, Street, Carlotter, Weister, Street, Carlotter, Weister, Street, Carlotter, Weister, Street, Carlotter, Weister, Street, Carlotter, Carlotter, Carlotter, Weister, Street, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Carlotter, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Starton, Carlotter, Martine, Clark Str., Carlotter, Martine, Cla	Livergation	Substitute CDR Rettering (1) Jones 17 Berry 21 Charles 44 Alt 684 Bartin 24 Alt 684 Secondage (2) Secondaged (2) (2)	DR MARTENS LEAGUE Presenter Division Spices Division Spices Division Spices Division Spices Division Spices Division Spices Division Chellenger City Createry Control Spices Division Spices Division	POOLS CHECK: Seeve draws (Total S: 17, 12, 20, 22, 24. Newfeders 25, 36, 40, 45, 47. Newscore draws (5, 1 vold): 7, 2, 5, 14, 18, 42. FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUES Presenter Divisions Eray Works (1, UCD 2, Deny C 0, Sigo Byrs C, Home Feirn Everton C, Schermlans S, Stiteld Seend-Seelans Calway Urd 2, Amhore To (1609; 2-1): Limerick FC 1; Orogheda Urd 3 (agg: 4-4, Limerick was 4-2 of pans). FA WOMER'S PRESENER LEAGUES Hattlessel Divisionary Everton (), Schemal Divisionary Everton (), Schemal C, Stoeton To 0, Croydon S Liverpool FC 0, Millwall C, Tearnman Fivrs 4, Southurnobon 1, Wembley 1, Arsenal 1. LEADURG GOAL SCORESSE FA Cardes Presentership (total): 16 Ravansili (Middiestrough). 8 Fertiment (Herwansile): Wright (Arsenal). 5 Shears: (Herwansile): Heryal (Laverpool): Le Fissel's Southurnobon): Soleidaer (Man List). 6 Campbell (Netton Forest): Cantons (Man List). 6 Campbell (List). 6 Campbell (Crystal Palace): Waller (Sheff) (List). 6 Campbell (List
Technical Part Tech	Oncor 78 Holland 23 Art 6,162 Gillinghass Diannard, Smith, Morris, Hossenthaler, Harris (Putham 58), Eryan, O'Connor (Thorwas 73), Rascille, Onstra, Balley (Play 59), Chappen, AFG Bearwasmenth Glass, Young, Bardasmore, O'Frien Howe 29). Cas, Omovimm (Town 84, Holland, Robinson, Retcher, Balley, Dean (O'Feel 80), Reterve AP O'Uros (Bibertony). Luttem ———————————————————————————————————	P W D L F A Plea Carlleis	Duratice (1)2 Chyclobania (0)1 Share 45 Methodor 71 Adiscrepated Shardonn) Best Fife (3)2 Falthit (0)4 Andrew 71 Andrew 72 Andrew 73 Andrew 73 Andrew 74 Andrew 75 Congely 25 Berry 40 (og) Referre 15 Family (Glasgow) Martines (1)4 Particle (1)6 Referre 15 Family (Glasgow) Referre K W Clark (Palbiny) P W D L F A Pen Demokra K W Clark (Palbiny) P W D L F A Pen Demokra K W Clark (Palbiny) P W D L F A Pen Demokra K W Clark (Palbiny) P W D L F A Pen Demokra K W Clark (Palbiny) P W D L F A Pen Demokra R 5 2 2 1 9 4 17 Q Berright 8 5 1 2 12 7 7 18 Referre R 7 2 2 1 9 8 10 Chydebania 8 3 1 4 7 11 10 Referre R 7 2 1 4 9 8 70 Referre R 7 2 1 4 9 8 70 Referre R 7 1 3 3 5 6 9 Second Division Breakin (1)3 Ferwick (1)2 Referre R 7 Freetand (Aberden) Demokraton (1)3 Ferwick (1)2 Referre R 7 Freetand (Aberden) Demokraton (1)3 Ferwick (1)3 Referre R 7 Freetand (Aberden) Demokraton (1)3 Ferwick (1)3 Referre R 7 Freetand (Aberden) Demokraton (1)3 Rev N R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R	Att 1,155 Scothar77 W D F A Piss Stormange 12 9 1 2 25 12 28 KG-dernalment 15 8 2 5 25 12 28 KG-dernalment 15 8 2 5 25 12 28 KG-dernalment 14 7 6 2 17 8 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	Settless Unid	Limerick won 4-2 on parel. EVEROPEAR U-2: CHAMPFOREMEP GUALIFYTHICE Group Four Lebvis 0. Scotland 0. PA WOMEN'S PIERMEER LEAGUES Attended Divisions Everton 0, Donisation 4 (Leasend Thistons Everton 0, Donisation 4 (Leasend Thistons City Acceptance) 1 (Wombley 1, Arsensi 1) AFRICAN MATTONS CUP GUALIFRINGS ERREGAR 2. Ehilopia 1: Gabon 0, Camernon 6: Zaire 0, Liberia 0: Zembia 1, Mozam- Bould 0. PEDERATION MERITARY MORTHERM LEAGUES First Division 0: Carriors 12 Whithy Tn 4: Durham C 0. Britisphem Byor 1, Murican 1, Wauddend 2: Seahem R Soor 1, Dureston Feet 2: Tow Law Tn 1, Chaster Le Street 1. S-8 COUNTIES LEAGUES First Division Arcensel 4, Milliwali 0: Chariton Air 2, To- benham 1; Gillingham 2, Fulliam 1; Leyest Orland 0, OFP 2; Norwich C 2, Cambridge UR1 1; Southern Und 6, Portsmouth 2: Wal- lord 4, Igswich Tn 0; West Ham 4, Cheissa 2 Hove 1; Sristol City 2, AFG Sournemouth 5, Wimbledon 1; Liston Tn 1, Colord Und 1; Redding 0, Wycombe Wadre 1; Cochetoter Und 5, Wimbledon 1; Liston Tn 1, Colord Und 1; Redding 0, Wycombe Wadre 1; Southerm- ton 2, Swindon Tn 0, Tollenhum 0, Crystal Palace 0, LEAGUES OF WALES River 1, Bazry, Tn 2 PONTTINS LEAGUES. Premier Divisions Bischum 1, Everion C: Liverpool 0, Man Led 3.	(Branzaer). 4 Forresser (Bereick): Michill (Hamilton): Mallan (Duson of South): Young (Livingston). 3 McFarlane (Hamilton): Ward (Dumberton): Delias (Dumberton): Tridred (Dumberton): Delias (Dumberton): Tridred (Dumberton): Delias (Dumberton): Tridred (Dumberton): S. Barwari (Invertees C. Thiette): Thorreson (Preferress): McGaires (Abbon): McCates (Abbon): Abbon): A Wallar (Abbon): McCates (Abbon): Abbon): A Wallar (Abbon): McCates (Abbon): Abbon): A Wallar (Abbon): McCates (Abbon): A Wallar (Bose Cousty): Adamson (Cousty): Adamson (Cousty): Adamson (Cousty): Adamson (Cousty): Abbon (McCates): A Market (McCates): A Wallar (McCates): A Warter (McCates): A Wallar (McCates):
Behalol	fishal accesse (LIS unless stated). 264 F. Black 84, 65, 69, 66, 268 D Lover III 65, 67, 64 G. 268 D Lover III 65, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 67, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68	Tennis SINGAPORE OPIDI: Sensi-finelis: E Chang (US) bit Riusedsis (GB) 7-6-3-3 J Stark (US) bit Riusedsis (GB) 7-6-3-4 J Stark (US) bit Riusedsis (GB) 7-6-3-6-6. G-4- Finelis: Stark bit Chang 5-4, 6-4. Doshiam T Woodfordsyn/E Woodfords (Aus) bi M Damm/A Obovskiy (C2/Fus) 7-6, 7-6. SPARKASSEM CUP WOMEN'S GP (Leipzg, Ger). Semi-finelis i Riugil (Cro.) bit is Graf (Ger) - w/o. Finelis Index bit Majoli 5-7, 6-3. 6-1. LYON GRAND PECK: Semi-finelis i Riugil (Cro.) bit S Graf (Ger) - w/o. Finelis Index bit Majoli 5-7, 6-3. 6-1. LYON GRAND PECK: Semi-finelis V Ka-felnikov (Fus) bit T Hanman (GB) 6-1, 6-3. A Beetsch (Fri bit T Encycle (Swo) 4-4. 5-4. 6-0. Finelis Kafelnikov bit Bostoch 7-5, 6-3. LTA AUTURN SATELLITE (Notingham): Heart Semi-finelis A Richardison (GB) bit C Williamson 7-6, 7-6; 4 Fox (GB) bit N Wesl (GB) 1-6, 7-6, 7-6. Finelis A Richardison Williamson bit R Koorligh Kokavec (SA/Cm) 6-2. 7-6. Wecenses Finelis S Finer (Swe) bit L Woodraft's (GB) bit B Bondrift Routsmova (GB) 6-2. 6-4. MARKEELLA WORLD SERIES (Spain): Plast B-K Goodiner (Ger) IR A Corresis (GB) 5-0. 6-2. BACHMITTON DATCH OPENS Finelis Mem Sus Jun (China) bi P-E Hoyer Larsen (Den) 5-8, 9-3, 9-5. Westers Yao Yan (Chira) bit Han Jeng (China) 9-2, 9-2, 9-0. BASSEDAII BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Newcastie 88, Crystal Palace 82, Birmingham 89, London Towers 62: Hennis & Wallord X-0. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Newcastie 88, Crystal Palace 82, Birmingham 89, London Towers 62: Hennis & Wallord X-0. BASKettali BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Newcastie 88, Crystal Palace 82, Birmingham 89, London Towers 62: Hennis & Wallord X-0. Circoland 3 (Baltimore won 3-1). BASKettali BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Newcastie 88, Crystal Palace 82, Birmingham 89, London Towers 62: Hennis & Wallord X-0. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Porty 100; Wor- Hing 60, Marchaster 78 WOMBON ASSURANCE CPEM (1061);	1. Startanda Governor (F Mathey Jor. Set) 1. Mercel: 2. Issuar Vand De Heile (E 1. Marcel: 2. Askari (R 1. Davison) 68.50; 3. Olympic Barteria (T 1. Gymnastics Women's Brattish Champyonships (Guildard: 0 Oversals: 1, I. Masson (Humting- (Guildard: 0 Oversals: 1, I. Masson (Humting- (Guildard: 0 Oversals: 1, I. Masson (Humting- den) 57.225pts; 2. J. Maioritimer (Liverpool) 37.160; 3. G. Cutt (Healthrow) 36.462; 4. J. Cos (Healthrow) 38.237; 5. G Fuchs (Har- row) 36.225; 6. R Douglas (E London) 35.775. Apparatus Sensie Vests; 1, Cutt 8.450pts; 2. Masson 1337; 3. M Hobday (Bir- mingham) 9.351. Assystestric barris 1, Fuchs 9.50ms; 2. R Douglas 2.50; 3. Cutt 9.262. Bearris 1. S Murray (Alderwood) 8.175pts; 2. Masson 1337; 3. M Hobday (Bir- mingham) 9.351. Assystestric barris 1, Fuchs 9.50ms; 2. Cox 9.250; 3. Micholson 8.175. Legent 1, Douglas 2.50; 3. Cutt 9.262. Bearris 1. S Murray (Alderwood) 8.175pts; 2. E Nicholson (Garristory) 9.057; 3. S Simoook (Liverpool) 8.812. Fleen 1, Maton 9.50pts; 2. Cox 9.250; 3. Micholson 8.175. ICO HOCKCY BERSON AMD HEDGES CUP: Custrisor finst, second lege Cardili 4. Nottingham 4 (agg 4-4: Nottingham win 3-2 on pans). SUPPERENTALABUS Medicals 8; Slough 2. Swindon 5. Telford 8. Kingston 6. NOSTITIERN PRENTSER LEAGUES Blech- born 3. Palsoy 5: Costarough 5. Marray- ned 7: Durnirius 6, Pite 13. HOCKCY BORNOCK 1. POLAND 47: Kaszleistes 4. Group Be Poland 4. Bangladesh 2; refand 12: 3. Italy 7: 4. Konya 6: 5. Bangladesh 4; 8. Scotland 2: 7, US 1. MATIOMAR LEAGUES Pressies Divinion 12: 3. Italy 7: 4. Konya 6: 5. Bangladesh 4; 8. Scotland 2: 7, US 1. MATIOMAR 1. Langues 1. 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SOCCER: WORLD CUP QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

Italy's striking pointer to Hoddle

Commentary

David Lacev

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OR England and Glenn Hoddle the game is afoot. For Arrigo Sacchi, Italy's coach, the game was very nearly up in Kishinev on Saturday as his latest confused team defeated Moldova 3-1 in a World Cup qualifier with rather less conviction than Hoddle's side had shown in winning 3-0 in the Republican

recalling Ferdinand to play as Italy's narrow-fronted Italians back in front after there are five groups of five needs an emphatic win alongside Shearer as well as attack and a midfield badly neither Testimitanu nor Ro nations and four of six, not all against Georgia in Perugia on including Le Tissier or Merson, should note the lessons that one would not have thought italy, of all teams, needed to learn.

Before Saturday's match serious misgivings had been expressed about Sacchi's decision to face Moldova with three strikers — Chiesa Ca-siraghi and Ravanelli — and although Ravanelli put Italy ahead after eight minutes with a swinging free-kick the doubts soon proved to be justified.

Three minutes later Ferrara failed to clear a long high

missing Albertini failed to get to grips with a Moldova team inspired by thoughts of a famous victory ... well, a famous

draw anyway. England had their scares in Kishinev but won comfortably enough because Ince's strength in midfield was complemented by the consistent width of the attack and the quality of centres supplied by Barmby and Gary Neville. Until Di Livio replaced Chiesa at half-time Italy ex-ploited Moldova's chronic Only the best runners-up weaknesses in the air only at free-kicks and corners.

manenco, the erratic Moldova goalkeeper, had managed to stop the ball reaching him. Ravanelli scored a late third from the penalty spot.

For the moment the significance of the result, as it affects Group Two of the quali-fying competition, is minimal. England lead the group from Italy on the and that is unlikely to be much of an advantage should

from the nine European Those willing Hoddle to ball from Epureanu, leaving pack his attack with goal-scoring potential against level. There they stayed for Poland on Wednesday, by the best part of the next hour restant from the right found Ravan-elli dragging Secu out of position and Casiraghi headed the for four places. And because

results will count when it comes to deciding who goes

through automatically. In the last European Cham-pionship only results against the teams finishing first, third and fourth in each qualflying group were taken into account. A similar device in the World Cup, and in the likely event of Moldova coming last in Group Two Eng-

land's victory might be signif-icant only if they finish top. Either way Hoddle knows that his best chance of forcing Italy into second place will come when Sacchi's team visit Wembley in February. That always assumes Sacchi will still be in charge. He is against Georgia in Perugia on Wednesday. England, meanwhile, will

be keen to discover whether the carry-over from Euro 96, spire Hoddle's team against an out-of-sorts Poland side. From an English point of view the quarrel between Andrzej Juskowiak, Poland's leading scorer, and the coach Antoni Piechniczek is perfectly timed.

The row springs from Piechniczek's decision to sub-stitute Juskowiak at half-lme sia in a friendly in June. Juskowiak complained that That always assumes Sacchi he had not interrupted his out to accommodate Shearer's will still be in charge. He is holidays merely to play 45 Newcastle partner, and if not out of the wood yet and minutes. As a result he has Hoddle decides to recall

Tough going . . . Ravanelli (left) battles it out with Secu

not be at Wembley.

Les Ferdinand is unlikely to flounce out if Hoddle again leaves him on the bench, which must be a possibility. The form shown by Barmby and Beckham in Kishinev argues against either being left out to accommodate Shearer's Newcastle partner, and if

been dropped from the squad | McManaman, who missed and unless there is a last | Moldova with a back injury minute reconciliation he will | he is more likely to do so at Moldova with a back injury. he is more likely to do so at the expense of Hinchcliffe.

Ferdinand and Shearer may be developing a prolific partnership for Newcastle but at international level the idea in pairs, let alone triples, is a myth — even if Ferdinand and Wright did once score five between them against



in Kiev again on Saturday when they saw off the much-fancied Portugal 2-1

mov scored the winner.

in Group Nine.

When a near miss is as good as a mile

Martin Thorpe in Cardiff on an eventual Dutch win that opened up a chasm in class

Group Seven: Wales 1. Holland 3

verted a six-yard chance to put Wales 2-0 ahead after an hour on Saturday night, Sunday morning's story might well have been one of Welsh sweat gloriously triumphing over Dutch style. Hughes missed, the Dutch eventually did not, and so victory was not able to mask a multitude of sins.

manager Bobby Gould yester-day, "do the Wales players know the game as well as the Dutch players? And I would have to say we're 20 years behind them. It comes down to ball retention, passing, making angles off the ball and the players just understanding what they're trying to do. Unless we get some answers we're not going to France."

One could be cynical and say his criticism was designed to deflect blame from himself, were it not for the fact that anyone who saw Wales's performance knows

Holland dominated the reply.

match with a characteristically easy invention and effective that the Wales players' endtechnique that under mined all talk of injuries and turmoil. And the Welsh, despite a fighting spirit that kept the Dutch goalless for 72 minutes, looked like a Ford Escort trying to win a grand

Gould blames the problem on a long-term lack of investthe players' acceptance of second best. "I told them they don't set their standards high enough," he said. "I told them

COTBALL can be a deceptive game. Had say to their coaches, 'I have a problem', and to work on their game instead of jumping in the car with their mates after training and disappearing.

It will take some coach to sort out the problem in time for World Cup qualification. But a glance next to the players' names on the team-sheet reveals another reason for the class divide: Ajax, Real Madrid and Internazionale on one side, Huddersfield Town, Wrexham and Bristol Rovers

Such inexperience meant, for instance, that when Wales did get the ball, few players knew how to keep it, even if it was just to give a breather to a beleaguered defence. The outlet offered by the class of the suspended Ryan Giggs was badly missed, and as Gould has fallen out with Ian Rush perhaps the manager would have got better ball retention by picking seasoned players such as David Phillips and Vinnie Jones. "That is your opinion," was Gould's

Southall's goal with even are nine more in his class.

top-corner-bound header. Wales were still 1–0 ahead at that point, courtesy of Dean Saunders on 17 minutes. disallowed for offside but Hol-land recovered from the blow,

resumed their luxurious parade of slick passes and shrewd movement and did everything but score. That they finally broke through was down to an in-

spired substitution, the arrival of Celtic's Pierre van Hooydonk. Two touches after coming

on he poked home from point-blank range. Then, four mindorf left Bowen for dead down the right and as he lined up a perfect cross, Van Hooydonk moved away classically from the goal and his marker Mel-ville before thundering back in to meet the ball unstoppa-bly with his head. It was the perfect riposte to being dropped by Tommy Burns in a clash over money. Four minutes later and the

game was over. Cocu crossed from the left and Ronald de Boer dived in with a header.

Wales, worryingly, can ex-pect more of the same in Holland next month when their three-point lead in Group Seven may well vanish. Their task will be hindered by the absence through suspe of Hugh to support the front two. So though Giggs returns after the ball came back towards his ban. All they need now

Southall's goal with even more frequency.

His response was to produce one of the truly great goalkeeping displays and a tonic for all 38-year-olds as he pulled off about eight goal-denying saves ranging from the good to the greatest, a flying arch backwards to claw out Cocu's leavest level in the greatest, a flying arch backwards to claw out Cocu's leavest level in the greatest, a flying arch backwards to claw out Cocu's leavest level in the greatest.









Milosevic opens the floodgates and Faroes sink without trace

A STON Villa's Savo Milo-Sevic scored a first-half hat-trick as Yugoslavia strolled to an 8-1 away win over the Faroe Islands in over the Faroe Islands in

Group Six yesterday. Yugoslavia, who over-

came rain-sodden condi-tions and also had a goal disallowed, maintained

their 100-per-cent record

after three games and top the group whereas Allan Si-

monsen's Faroe Islands

team have lost all four of theirs. Spain travel to the

Czech Republic on Wednes-

day in the same group.

Group Four: Latvia 0, Scotland 2

Scots make do and mend Hamilton doubt

Patrick Glenn in Riga on Craig Brown's options for Wednesday's game in Estonia

Sergiy Popov gave Ukraine an early lead on the break and after huge second-half pressure Portu-HE starfish has an extraordinary talent for losing important parts of its body and gal's Luis Figo seemed to have salvaged a point with an equaliser seven minutes from time. Five minutes later, bowever, Yuri Maxigrowing effective replacements. In time it could also become a role model for the Scotland squad.

Adaptability rather than

outstanding ability was at the core of the success achieved by the players Craig Brown took to Estonia last night in readiness for the second part of an important double. But the captain Gary McAllister and his follow midfelder Str. and his fellow midfielder Stuart McCall are unavailable for Wednesday's match in Tallinn, and it will again be time to come up with effective are in the squad — Collins is the other.

from his original squad — the Scots seem able to cope. In-deed, the victory would have been even more emphatic but for a fine performance from the goalkeeper Karavayevs and assorted miscues in front

The goals, scored by Collins and Jackson either side of the interval, were outstanding. The Monaco midfielder Collins was the most influential player on the field: he will he said. "It's why a new man take over the captaincy for the first time on Wednesday."

And I've loved in the past tense. Then he left and the first time on Wednesday.

how we go about things. The manager works very hard on the togetherness aspect and, of course, he is always well armed with information on the opposition.

"The temporal accurate too."

LATVIA: Karnveyevs: Troickis, Astalievs. Zemtinekia, Sheviyakova, Siepanov V Ivanovs. Biedidelis, Aimkus, Babicavs Stockors. h-0, Pahers.

SCOTLAND: Gram; Burley. Boyd. Celderwood. Whyte. T McKiniay (McNamera, 79), Spenor (Dodda, SD). McCall (Lambert, h-1), Jackson, G McAllister, Callins. With Sweden and Austria,

Scotland's most serious rivals in Group Four, meeting in Stockholm on the same eve-ning, victory in Tallinn would enhance the Scots' prospects of qualifying for France 1998.

Brown's crop does not contain many plums, but the secret of their relative success night's work in Riga suggests that Brown is unlikely to suffer anxiety attacks over the may reside in the fact that the players are, generally speak-ing, of similar quality. It gives them resilience, with replace-ments often as effective as the

original choices. McAllister, however, is an exception. Finding an adequate deputy for one of the two most accomplished play-

allimn, and it will time to come up with affective replacements.

McAllister received a yellow card during the 2-0 win in Latvia — he was also cautioned during the 0-0 draw with Austria in Vienna last month — and is automatically suspended. McCall was considered to barracks for Saturad half with a hamber of half with a hamber of

The young full-back, then. will win his second cap at right-back with Craig Burley moving forward to midfield and Scot Gemmill being pressed into the McAllister

Collins agreed that having one level of quality in the squad helped their consistency, but insisted that there was another reason. "Craig's preparations are top class,"

"He is very accurate, too, and players coming into the and players coming into the group tend to be very well prepared, even in a very short time, for what lies ahead."

Estonia lie immediately ahead, but that satisfactory leaves Tommy Craig's side

with only one point from two games in the European Championship following their 4-0 thrashing in Austria.



Group Nine: Northern Ireland 1, Armenia 1

over next stop

Michael Walker on an outbreak of

rumour in Belfast OMEONE much wiser than your average foot-hall manager once said: "It is hard to believe a man is telling the truth when you

know you would lie if you were in his place."

Without wishing to imply that Bryan Hamilton is even remotely related to the honourable member for Tation the quotation came to mind on Saturday afternoon as the North-ern Ireland manager met the media at Windsor Park.

After his brief analysis of a disappointing draw the hungry press got on to the nitty gritty Manchester City. A flurry of speculation had preceded this World Cup qualifying match and it all concerned Hamilton's relationship with Maine Road: had he been approached?

His response was similar to the one he had given before kick-off. "I just take it as a great compliment." Beyond that, he said, he would not go, but did. "This job is not for ever, and I would always like to go back into club management." Hamilton then gave what amounted to a verbal CV of his time in charge of Northern Ireland: jointsecond finish in a European Championship group, a "great" result against Ger-many before the summer and the development of a nucleus of promising young players.
"And I've loved it," he added,

Then he left and today will

be on an aircraft bound for Frankfurt. There he links with the Germany team bound for Erevan to face Ar-menia on Wednesday night. Unless, of course, Franny calls. That is not entirely unrealistic. Lee badly needs someone with enthusiasm. Hamilton's greatest asset. Many managers might regard the Maine Road job as dead

the Maine Road Job as dead end, but not Hamilton. In every possible way Windsor Park is smaller than Maine Road, particularly after the two latest under-whelming Irish perfor-mances. August's defeat by Ukraine was at least put into perspective by Portugal's loss perspective by Portugal's loss in Kiev on Saturday and this tepid draw may turn hotter after a few teams have visited

And that is the problem for Hamilton and any future Northern Ireland manager, the country with the smallest population in the group is finally becoming the weakest team. The Armenian coach recognise this, saying: "We came here for the victory and

lost two important points."

A Frenchman called Eric had given the Armenians a sight of all three with a goal was well constructed and well taken. Assadouryan of Guingamp, making his debut, only qualifies for Armenia because of the grandmother ruling. Lennon, whose mistake led to the Armenian goal, atoned on the half-hour with a fluky volley that gives the Irish one point out of six. The Germans are next, although Hamilton wwould have noted that Man-

Five pages of sport

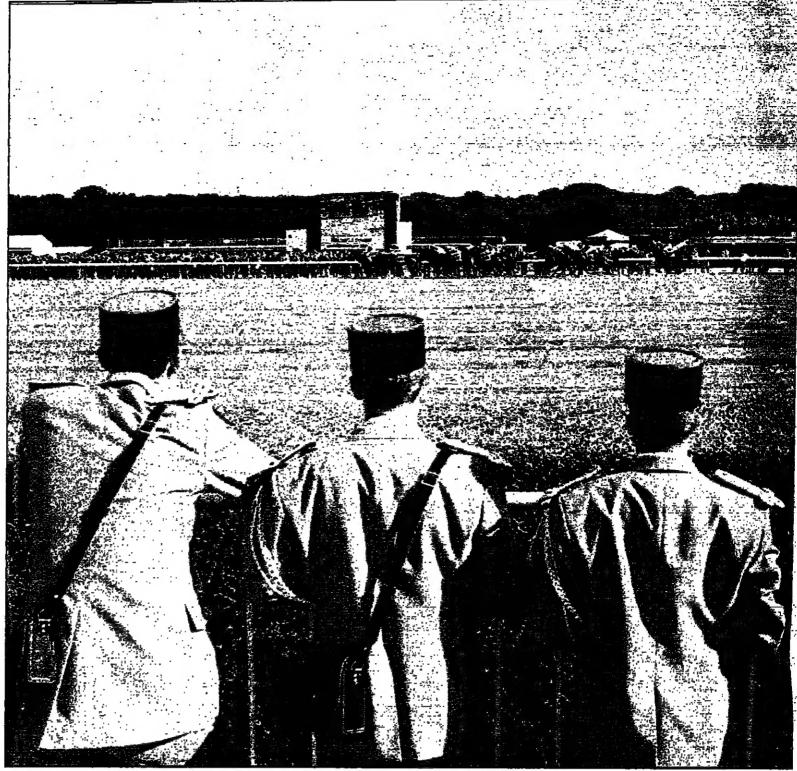
Rugby Union Wasps brought to earth by Gloucester rampage

Soccer Italy's problems show Hoddle the way

SportExtra

THE BIG-RACE PARISIAN CROWD IS TREATED TO AN AWESOME DISPLAY OF HORSE POWER





rrowd after his awesome victory on Helissio. Members of the Army Band were among the spectators who witnessed his winning ride French triumphant . . Olivier Peslier acknowledges the cheers of the Long

Chris Hawkins reports from Longchamp where a colt pulverised Europe's finest horses in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

Helissio makes hacks of the best

first, the rest nowhere at Longchamp yesterday as the French-trained threeyear-old colt ran out one of the easiest winners of the Priz de l'Arc de Triomphe

since Sea Bird in 1965. There are few finer sights in racing than a free-moving front runner switching into overdrive, and that was exactly what Helissio served up to lengthened his awesome stride to put the race beyond doubt as soon as he swung for home. His emphatic victory earned his connections £527,000 in prize-money alone.

Pilsudski was five lengths away in second place, nar-rowly holding the late run of Oscar Schindler, but as the runner-up's English trainer Michael Stoute said: "As soon as the winner quickened we had no chance. Helissio is just a machine.

No one was arguing with that summing-up nor with Olivier Peslier, the winning jockey, when he claimed he had the 114-mile race in his pocket fully seven furlongs out. "I don't know how you say this in English but in France we say ooh la la la la'," said Peslier. "This was the best of the best."

Peslier's English may be somewhat eccentric but the 25-year-old French championelect is a natural horseman and, judging by the way be rode this winner, has a soon, as Helissio's next race a big temptation for Kevin

TWAS a case of Helissio | superb "pair of hands".

irst, the rest nowhere at Helissio pulled like a train ongchamp yesterday as when beaten for the first and Derby, with Dominic Boeuf in the saddle. But as soon as Peslier got on him he became

different animal altogether. Peslier can simply drop his hands on the withers and the colt switches off, as he showed here by racing in such a free but totally relaxed manner. As for Helissio, his power comes from a long, strong body which gives him

and, with his luck, hardly needs any more; Verte Amande, his previous Arc runner. finished third in 1992. a tremendous presence. Among a good-looking field Helissio was bred by Chrissy O'Reilly, wife of the

'Seldom has a field of top-class horses been made to look so slow as by Helissio in full cry'

his trainer, Elie Lellouche, whose beefy stature belies his original career as a jockey. and for his Spanish owner En-rique Sarasola, who paid only 350,000 francs (around £45,000) for Helissio as a

yearling. The Japanese made an offer for him of \$8 million (£5.5 milasola turned them down. The men with the yen may dra-matically revise their bid

Among a good-looking field Chrissy O'Reilly, wife of the yesterday he was easily the pick of the paddock.

This was a first Arc win for Helice, who was subsequently barren and sold in some dis-

Lellouche ruled out a trip to

Toronto for the Breeders' Cup in three weeks' time, believ-

ing that will come too soon.

although Helissio hardly

Sarasola, a businessman who owns Madrid racecourse,

never has more than two

horses in training in France

eemed to break sweat here.

grace to Saudi Arabia. If there was an unfortunate horse in the race it was Oscar Schindler, ridden by Cash As-mussen, who was second-last turning into the straight when Peslier said "Allez".

From that position he had no chance but he made up a huge amount of ground in the final two furlongs. The Melbourne Cup, over two miles in early November, must now be

Prendergast, his trainer. Oscar Schindler has 8st 13lb in the big Australian race and handicapped. Coral immediately offered him at 8-1 for the

race, William Hill going a

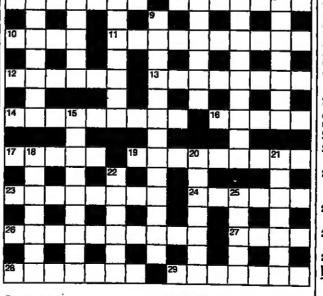
more conservative 6-1. There were a number of disnotably from Swain, who ran fourth but some way below his earlier form when he had finished within a length of Helissio at Saint-Cloud.

Pentire was 10th and never threatened to get in a blow, and Zagreb, whose owner Allen Paulson had piloted his own jet across the Atlantic to see the race, faded to finish 13th after being close enough on the home turn. His jockey Mick Kinane said that the Irish Derby winner "blew up" and that he was not hard on the colt once it became clear

his chance had gone. Frankie Dettori came down o earth when finishing last on Classic Cliché, who ran too badly to be true. He finished tailed off and Dettori de-scribed his running as "very

The sad aspect of the con-test was that Polaris Flight broke his off-fore leg and had to be destroyed. But the abiding memory of the race will be of Helissio in full cry. Seldom has a field of top-class horses been made to look so

Guardian Crossword No 20,777



Across 1 A flower opening wide in the

end (7)

5 The deje awful to see (7)

10 Some role! (4) be ordered (10)

short supply (6)

11 Occasional police raid may 12 Boxes with a key are in

very fast (8)

American women's team making a strong attack (9) 16 An all-round measure (5)

17 Work in Greek Island

punishment (8)

19 Walk, and please get moving! (9) 23 Imposing corporal

English Dictionary are Mirs G Speakman of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, Mr A Woodger of London SE4, G N Furnival of Seaford, East Sussex, Mike Breslin of Box Corsham, Witshire, and K S Klasack

Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0831 338 238. Calls cost 45p per min. cheap rate, 50p per min at all

24 Being in rags, the beggar is hardly flashy (6)

26 Possibly sets about a creditor, but certainly not the beefiest (10)

27 Directions on producing gas

28 Perfume that can cause an adverse reaction? (7) 29 Well-organised assistant (7) Down

2 Hustle the slipshod operator (7)

3 Total Issue (5) 4 A note newsmen hold back

6 A plank craftily positioned (6) 7 Adapt to it again and there'll

be trouble (9) 8 The oldest way to keep accounts (7)

9 He'll arrange personal cover in quite original fashion (5-8) Set by Crispa



15 Pop back in place repaired device (9)

18 A flighty creature gets to many in a foreign port (7) 20 Brighter, but more frivolous

21 Loot might be piled so (7) 22 Various people going down

cattle (5)

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